(b) Increased knowledge and skills for implementing social policies at the national and community levels with a view to strengthening capacity of Member States in this regard

256. The subprogramme achieved further integration of technical cooperation and normative activities, with the objectives of raising awareness of social group issues and supporting Member States and civil society to develop and implement policies and programmes to promote global goals and commitments at the national and community levels. This work involved supporting policy development for specific social groups and promoting mechanisms and methodologies for greater social inclusion. Areas of primary concern were older persons, persons with disabilities, families and indigenous peoples. In support of the International Year of Cooperatives, the subprogramme undertook efforts to strengthen national and regional skills and knowledge in promotion of the cooperative enterprise model.

(c) Better understanding and awareness by Governments, civil society and the private sector of issues of social development

257. The subprogramme has increased the visibility of the work of the Division for Social Policy and Development through its websites and social media tools (newsletters, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube), focusing on the observation and preparation of international years (International Year of Cooperatives), anniversaries (International Year of the Family) and high-level meetings (on persons with disabilities and on indigenous peoples) and older persons and youth. The establishment of a new web portal entitled "United Nations Social Development Network" has contributed to a significant increase in the number of visits to and downloads of documents and information materials from the websites. Enhancing access played a critical role in servicing the intergovernmental machinery and in promoting the work and objectives of the Division in the field of social development. Utilization of an online pre-registration system resulted in high numbers of participants from civil society at intergovernmental forums and stakeholder events, thus contributing to promoting cooperation, networking and knowledge-sharing on social development issues.

Subprogramme 4
Sustainable development

(a) Effective review of and agreement by Member States on key sustainable development challenges and priority actions of the multi-year programme of work to advance implementation in the areas of forests, biodiversity, biotechnology, tourism and mountains

258. The Division for Sustainable Development provided substantive and technical support to intergovernmental processes, including the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, the inaugural session of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development created at the Conference on Sustainable Development and the preparations for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States. Feedback from delegates and other major stakeholders at the Conference on Sustainable Development and during its preparations, as well as during the Second Committee meetings and informal discussions by the Division with delegates,

suggested that there was significant satisfaction with the support provided by the Secretariat.

(b) Increased accessibility of information, understanding and knowledge of policy options, practical measures and concrete actions needed for the adoption and implementation of sustainable development at the local, national, regional and international levels

259. The Division continued to make its websites more user friendly to increase access by the public and to provide up-to-date information on a range of sustainable development issues, including two decades of normative and analytical work on related topics. The overall number of visits and downloads during the biennium 2012-2013 totalled 3,398,898. Over 10,306,984 page views were recorded. Inputs from Member States and other stakeholders included over 6,000 pages of suggestions for the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and over 1,400 voluntary initiatives for sustainable development. The websites now provide information regarding preparations for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States.

(c) Enhanced technical, human and institutional capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement actions and national strategies for sustainable development in energy, water, natural resources and sustainable consumption and production

260. The Division continued to provide technical and substantive capacity-building assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition. In partnership with UNDP, it provided technical and policy advisory support to 80 developing countries in their national preparations for and participation in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. According to feedback from participants and project beneficiaries reflecting appreciation for the services and the assistance provided, the target of 93 per cent of countries expressing satisfaction was achieved. During the biennium, over 560 national experts (more than twice the target) benefited from the capacity-development efforts made by the Division. The Division also supported 28 small island developing States in their preparations for the Third International Conference.

Subprogramme 5
Statistics

(a) Strengthened global statistical system, with more active participation by countries and increased collaboration among international organizations, including progress in the harmonization and rationalization of development indicators

261. Participation in the sessions of the Statistical Commission, which are the key events of the global statistical system, increased to a historic high during the biennium, reflecting the broad interest of Member States in actively shaping the agenda of the global statistical system. Participation in other events organized by the Statistics Division, including high-level forums on geospatial information management, remained high as well. Participation by developing countries in the events organized by the Statistics Division increased considerably owing to the

availability of funding from the Division's own funds and from projects and to donor support.

(b) Better and broader use by Governments, international organizations, research institutes, the private sector and the general public of statistical data and technical guidelines produced by the subprogramme

262. All types of users (Governments, research institutes, partner organizations, the private sector and the general public) continued to express significant interest in the data and electronic products of the Division. In terms of its core business area of data dissemination, the Division increased the rate of satisfaction with data queries by 19.8 per cent. In respect of visits to the website by the general public, demand reached a reasonable growth level of 3.6 per cent (surpassing the target of 2 per cent).

(c) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to routinely collect, compile, store, analyse and disseminate official statistics and indicators in the economic, social, demographic and environmental fields to produce quality data for policymakers and the public in general

263. The building of statistical capacity is one of the key pillars of the work of the Statistics Division and is fully integrated with the Division's data and methodological development work. A total of 47 capacity-building activities were conducted during the biennium, with 78.2 per cent of participants indicating that training materials were subsequently used and recommendations were implemented. These results surpassed the original targets of 36 events and a satisfaction rate of 73 per cent.

Subprogramme 6
Population

(a) Enhanced awareness of the international community of new and emerging population issues and increased knowledge and understanding, at the national level, in particular in the areas of fertility, mortality, migration, HIV/AIDS, urbanization, population growth, population ageing and the environment

264. During the biennium, the Population Division supported the forty-fifth session, on adolescents and youth, and the forty-sixth session, on migration, of the Commission on Population and Development, both of which appealed to a broader-than-usual set of constituencies, as well as the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. In addition to holding briefings in advance of the annual sessions of the Commission, the Division organized five preparatory meetings for the High-level Dialogue. The Division also co-led the global thematic consultation on the role of population dynamics in the post-2015 development agenda, which included organizing two briefings for Member States and separate face-to-face consultations with representatives of academia, civil society and the private sector.

(b) Effectively facilitate review by Member States of progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly and the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits in the social and economic fields related to population and development, including the Millennium Summit and the 2005 World Summit

265. Based on feedback from Member State delegations, the Division effectively facilitated review by Member States of progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. Complimentary references to the timely, technically sound and policy-oriented documentation produced by the Population Division as well as the Division's role in substantively servicing the Commission were made by 40 delegations. One delegation stated that the "Population Division continues to play an essential role as a source of policy-neutral population expertise", while another commended the Division "on its excellent work relating to the analysis of population trends, monitoring the implementation of the Programme of Action, preparing population projections and making information about their work available to the community of nations".

(c) Improved accessibility and timeliness of population information and data for use by Member States, the United Nations system, civil society and academia

266. During 2013, the Population Division continued to update and expand its website in order to provide Member States with access to timely information on population. For the first time, the Division also made all of its population datasets available online and launched several new interactive web-based tools to enable users to access data faster and more easily than ever before. Traffic statistics indicate that in 2013 the Division's website was visited by approximately 3,300 people every day, generating about 1.2 million page views for the year. Finally, the Population Division upgraded its e-mail announcement service, which is used to alert subscribers about important news, events and developments concerning the Division's activities. The service currently has some 2,500 subscribers from all over the world.

Subprogramme 7
Development policy and analysis

(a) Strengthened international debate by assisting the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in identifying and understanding new and emerging economic development issues and challenges, in particular in the context of advancing the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with full consideration of the implications of major cross-cutting issues for the international development agenda

267. The analytical outputs of the Development Policy and Analysis Division strengthened the debate in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council by providing unbiased analyses of development issues and policies. The main products were the *World Economic and Social Survey* (2012 and 2013), the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its fourteenth session (E/2012/33) and on its fifteenth session (E/2013/33), the policy note by the Committee for Development

Policy entitled *The United Nations Development Strategy Beyond 2015*, the *Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force Report* (2012 and 2013) and three reports of the Secretary-General (A/66/138, A/68/202 and A/68/265). Their impact was reflected in related General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions. The subprogramme also led the coordination of the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the publication of many reports of the Task Team.

(b) Improved awareness of and dialogue on the world economic situation, including fostering and disseminating a unified United Nations view on the world economic outlook and its implications for the prospects of developing countries

268. The analytical outputs of the Division strengthened the dialogue on the world economic situation in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. The main outputs were the *World Economic Situation and Prospects* (2012 and 2013) and joint reports by the Division, with inputs from the Financing for Development Office of the Department, UNCTAD and the regional commissions. At the high-level segment of the Council in 2012 and 2013 the annual publication and its mid-year updates (E/2012/72 and E/2013/70) were discussed. Content from the publication, including its mid-year and monthly updates, and the Division's global vulnerability monitor are regularly incorporated into speeches by the Secretary-General and other United Nations officials and cited in a number of reports and notes of the Secretary-General.

(c) Strengthened capacity of developing countries to integrate macroeconomic, environmental and social policies in national development strategies and to make macroeconomic stability compatible with the long-term goals of poverty eradication and sustainable development

269. Capacity-building activities related to supporting finance and planning authorities to formulate and implement macroeconomic policies and to strengthening macroeconomic and social policy coherence through integrated micro-macro modelling were completed during the biennium. Capacity-development activities covered, with varying intensity, about 75 beneficiary countries, including all the least developed countries. Nineteen countries are expected to integrate macroeconomic and social policies into national development strategies, with a focus on sustainable development, with the support of the Division.

270. In addition, the website assisting least developed countries to confront their special development challenges and achieve progress in terms of graduating from the least developed countries category, continued to be revised to improve accessibility and interaction and received long-term support from the General Assembly (see resolution 67/221). The Division also continued work on the Integrated Implementation Framework, which presents both qualitative information and quantitative data on global financial and policy commitments in support of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The Integrated Implementation Framework website was launched by the Secretary General in June 2012.

Subprogramme 8
Public administration, finance and development

(a) Improved accessibility of information, knowledge-sharing and partnerships through the United Nations Public Administration Network and the Public Administration Knowledge Space

271. In 2012-2013, the success of the Division for Public Administration and Development Management at improving the accessibility of information and knowledge-sharing was demonstrated by the 82,925,220 page views recorded for the United Nations Public Administration Network and the 632,462 page views recorded for the United Nations public administration country studies. The Division was also able, through the United Nations e-Government survey, to provide policymakers and stakeholders with valuable inputs for tapping into e-government for economic, social and environmental development and for further consolidating national development strategies for sustainable development.

(b) Enhanced dialogue, resolutions and actions on public administration and governance issues

272. The positive impact made by the Division was reflected in the references contained in reports and resolutions of intergovernmental bodies, including General Assembly resolutions 67/195 and 68/198, on information and communications technologies for development, and 66/209, on promoting the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions. Member States also affirmed the Division's usefulness by requesting nine advisory missions, including to developing countries such as Haiti and Rwanda. In addition, 45 references, recommendations and decisions were made in national plans and policies on the basis of publications and products of the Division.

(c) Increased capacity of national and local governments to strengthen professionalism, accountability and excellence in the public sector

273. During the biennium, the Division promoted innovations and shared best practices in public administration, including through two ceremonies for the United Nations Public Service Awards and Public Service Day, at which 13 capacity-building workshops were held for 1,300 participants. Interest in the Awards in particular grew significantly: 1,071 nominations were received during the biennium, representing 73 Member States in 2012 and 82 Members States in 2013. National and local governments continued to take advantage of the courses offered through the Online Training Centre of the United Nations Public Administration Network, which recorded 5,482 enrolments. At least 29 methodological and technical recommendations in 22 countries were implemented as a result of advisory services and technical cooperation projects provided by the Division.

Subprogramme 9
Sustainable forest management

(a) Effective international dialogue on sustainable forest management, with a focus on forests and economic development and means of implementing sustainable forest management

274. The subprogramme continued to effectively promote international dialogue on sustainable forest management, with significant decisions arising from the tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, at which important discussions were held on forests and economic development, on preparing for the review of the international arrangement on forests in 2015 and on advancing the prominence of forests in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. The subprogramme also facilitated the adoption of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex), in which Heads of State and Government fully recognized the significance of forests in sustainable development, and Assembly resolution 67/200, on the International Day of Forests. Five workshops on the process of facilitating forest financing attended by over 100 country representatives produced concrete recommendations on mobilizing financing for forests and addressing the associated challenges.

(b) Enhanced monitoring, assessment of and reporting on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and the progress towards the Global Objectives on Forests

275. Three workshops on strengthening national capacities to report to the United Nations Forum on Forests were organized during 2012 and produced a new, streamlined reporting format. More than 75 countries and regional organizations used the new format to report to the Forum at its tenth session, an unprecedented number. The format also facilitated systematic reporting by subregional organizations.

(c) Improved international collaboration and coordination on forests through more effective and better knowledge on sustainable forest management among Governments, major groups, organizations, instruments and processes, including the activities of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

276. The subprogramme strengthened more than 16 partnerships with members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, regional and subregional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations during the biennium and facilitated the first-ever organization-led initiative of the Partnership in September 2012. The factsheets produced by the Partnership on different aspects of sustainable forest management raised public awareness of the contribution made by and the potential of forests in terms of sustainable development at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Through the subprogramme, stakeholder participation was strengthened and an interactive multi-stakeholder dialogue was held at the tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests to emphasize the importance of forests to indigenous peoples and local communities. In addition, the subprogramme coordinated the preparation by the Partnership of a major study on forest financing, which was a significant input to the tenth session of the Forum and the basis for the Forum's decisions on forest financing.

(d) Increased awareness and political support for national-, regional- and global-level actions on sustainable forest management

277. The subprogramme successfully facilitated and supported the adoption of the General Assembly resolution on the International Day of Forests and continued to provide advice and support to countries and organizations on effective plans to celebrate the Day. Five interregional capacity-building workshops on national reporting were organized, which significantly increased national capacities to implement the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests. Building on the success of the International Year of Forests outreach campaign, the subprogramme launched the second edition of the Forest Heroes Award, a second international short film festival and an international photography contest to broaden its outreach efforts. Numerous multimedia and video products were submitted. The tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests featured a major "Forests for people" awards ceremony, at which 16 inspiring individuals were honoured. These activities generated great interest from both Member States and the media.

(e) Enhanced assistance to Member States receiving assistance in developing and implementing forest conservation and rehabilitation strategies and in increasing the area of forests under sustainable management in order to maintain and improve their forest resources, with a view to enhancing the benefits of forests

278. More than 13 Member States requested and received assistance from the subprogramme during the biennium. For example, substantive support was provided to Viet Nam for the country-led initiative entitled "A pathway to a green economy in the context of sustainable development: focus on the role of markets in the promotion of sustainable forest management" and to Ukraine for the country-led initiative entitled "The Lviv Forum on Forests in a Green Economy: actions and challenges for the countries of Eastern Europe and Northern and Central Asia". In addition, the subprogramme, through the United Nations Forum on Forests, provided strategic and technical assistance to developing countries in identifying obstacles and opportunities for gaining access to financing from all sources and for all types of forests. Assistance was provided to groups of countries with low levels of forest cover, small island developing States, the least developed countries and African States.

Subprogramme 10
Financing for development

(a) Effective multi-stakeholder monitoring of and follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, the outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and other related outcomes

279. The subprogramme reached its biennial target of 32 major inputs from Governments, regional groupings and institutional and non-institutional stakeholders to the annual assessment of the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and related outcomes. As in previous bienniums, in 2012-2013 substantive inputs from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, WTO, UNCTAD and UNDP, as well as the ministerial declaration of the Group of 77 and China, served as major contributions to the annual reports submitted to the General

Assembly on follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration on Financing for Development (A/67/339 and A/68/357) and the Economic and Social Council on coherence, coordination and cooperation in the context of financing for development (E/2012/7 and E/2013/52) and thus contributed to the effective multi-stakeholder monitoring of the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus. Of note, during 2012, were the addition of two inputs, one submitted on behalf of the Global Governance Group (see A/66/821, annex) and one submitted on behalf of the Group of 20 (see A/66/877, annex), related to role of the United Nations and the Group of 20 in global governance (see A/67/769).

(b) Strengthened role and fuller use of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the relevant intergovernmental and governing bodies of other institutional stakeholders, for the purposes of conference follow-up and coordination

280. The most notable intergovernmental agreement in 2012-2013 was the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex), which led to the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing. The Committee held two sessions in 2013. Its final objective was to prepare a report containing proposals for an effective, sustainable development financing strategy in 2014. The ongoing efforts to strengthen the follow-up mechanism on financing for development culminated in the decision to convene, in 2015 or 2016, a third international conference on financing for development, with a comprehensive scope (see Assembly resolution 68/204). In addition, the Secretary-General issued a report on the modalities of the financing for development follow-up process, which included options for strengthening that process (A/67/353).

(c) Fuller engagement of Governments and greater cooperation and interaction among all institutional and non-institutional stakeholders involved in the financing for development process, to ensure proper follow-up to the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the Monterrey and Doha conferences on financing for development and the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development

281. The 2012-2013 programme of multi-stakeholder events on financing for development featured a series of five meetings on sovereign debt restructuring organized by the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in collaboration with relevant stakeholders. Also, the 2012 and 2013 special meetings of the Economic and Social Council on international cooperation in tax matters featured multi-stakeholder panel discussions on current topics in international tax cooperation, involving relevant international organizations. The centrepieces of those meetings were the official launch of the 2011 update of the United Nations Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries and the 2012 United Nations Transfer Pricing Practical Manual for Developing Countries. Both Council meetings were preceded by expert group meetings on the current areas of work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, namely "Transfer pricing and capacity-development in tax matters" (2012) and "Extractive industries taxation" (2013). Moreover, a capacity-development meeting was held on the administration and

negotiation of double tax treaties, which was attended by representatives of 32 developing countries.

Section 10
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

Highlights of programme results

The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States succeeded in placing the special needs and concerns of the three of the most vulnerable groups of countries high on the international agenda, including at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Ninth Ministerial Conference of WTO. The Office supported the three groups of countries in their elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals. Participants in the Ninth Ministerial Conference of WTO adopted a package for least developed countries and an agreement on trade facilitation that was favourable to landlocked developing countries. For the first time, the Office published a report on the state of the least developed countries, covering 2013. In support of the Istanbul Programme of Action, the Office, together with other United Nations entities, organized 15 joint meetings for least developed countries and their development partners, including a high-level event on sustainable energy for least developed countries. The Office made significant progress in the preparations for the 10-year review conference of the Almaty Programme of Action and successfully organized the regional review meetings for Asia and Europe, Africa, and Latin America, and 14 thematic pre-conference events in collaboration with the United Nations entities.

Challenges and lessons learned

Important lessons were learned on the need to strengthen the network of national focal points for the least developed countries, to enable network members to further exchange views on global developments on and experiences regarding the mainstreaming of the Istanbul Programme of Action. Lessons were also learned on the importance of identifying national-level focal points for landlocked developing countries in the preparatory process for the 10-year review conference and the implementation of the Programme of Action. A number of key stakeholders in the international community did not refer to countries currently recognized within the United Nations system as small island developing States with the same term, as they had developed their own groupings and labels for such countries. This may have an impact on the programme design going forward. All the subprogrammes recognized the importance of enhanced coordination among United Nations entities and other international and multilateral organizations for ensuring integrated follow-up and support for the three groups of countries.

Output implementation rate

282. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 95 per cent of 251 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

283. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 10)).

Executive direction and management

(a) Programme of work is effectively managed and supported by staff and financial resources

284. The Office managed the programme effectively and provided the necessary support to Member States. It ensured that outputs were delivered within the established timelines and that resources were utilized effectively and efficiently.

(b) Increased timeliness of submission of documentation

285. The Office met its target of submitting 92 per cent of pre-session documents by the required deadline.

(c) Increased awareness of the special needs and concerns of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States that require attention by Member States and international organizations

286. The Office was able to raise awareness of the special needs and concerns of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states in different international forums, including the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and discussions on the post-2015 development agenda. As a result, declarations and resolutions that were adopted were supportive of the groups: each group had stand-alone paragraphs dedicated to them and several references in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

Subprogramme 1
Least developed countries

(a) Strengthened partnership between the least developed countries and development partners

287. The continued advocacy activities of the Office contributed to an increase in the number of measures taken by development partners in support of the least developed countries. The quality of aid also improved, including through an increase in the share of official development assistance allocated to productive capacity. WTO members agreed to streamline and facilitate the accession of the least developed countries to their organization and, at the Ninth Ministerial Conference, adopted a package for the least developed countries. In respect of science, technology and innovation, the advocacy and analytical work referred to in the report of the Secretary-General on the technology bank and science, technology and innovation supporting mechanism dedicated to the least developed countries (A/68/217) brought increased attention to the subject. In its resolution 68/224, the

General Assembly supported the establishment of a technology bank and science, technology and innovation supporting mechanism dedicated to the least developed countries under the auspices of the United Nations. The recommendations contained in the new report on the state of the least developed countries were reflected in Assembly resolution 68/224.

(b) Enhanced capacity of least developed countries to mainstream the new programme of action, the Millennium Development Goals and internationally agreed development goals into their national development strategies

288. Around 25 least developed countries have aligned their development plans and frameworks with the priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action, with a view to fostering development and achieving graduation. The Office organized four country-level workshops related to the mainstreaming and implementation of the Programme of Action in Angola, Bhutan, Ethiopia and Nepal, as well as two workshops for national focal points. Several of the least developed countries have announced their intention to graduate by 2020 and have started to develop strategies to reach that objective. The Office, in collaboration with other United Nations entities, has been providing support in that respect and has organized various events to ensure smooth transition strategies. In the Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries of 27 September 2013, deep appreciation was expressed for the Office's rigorous and high-quality follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the Programme of Action (A/C.2/68/3, annex, para. 46).

(c) Enhanced coordination among United Nations entities and other international and multilateral organizations to ensure integrated follow-up and support for the least developed countries

289. The advocacy work of the Office contributed to an increased number of United Nations entities deciding to mainstream the Istanbul Programme of Action and integrate its provisions into their work programmes. Some agencies allocated 50 per cent or more of their budgets to the least developed countries. Four working groups were established to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action in critical areas, within the framework of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group for Least Developed Countries. The Office, together with other United Nations system organizations, implemented 15 joint activities, including a high-level event on sustainable energy for the least developed countries and a consultative meeting with the least developed countries and their main development partners, which highlighted the importance of including the priorities of the least developed countries in the post-2015 development agenda. The Office and the United Nations Development Group have issued operational guidelines for the country teams to follow up on the Programme of Action at the country level.

Subprogramme 2
Landlocked developing countries

(a) Progress towards establishing efficient transit transport systems and reducing trade transaction costs

290. The Office succeeded in mobilizing and reporting on international support to landlocked developing countries and raising international awareness of their special needs. International support to landlocked developing countries continued to

increase, including through the Aid for Trade initiative, foreign direct investment and technical and financial support aimed at establishing efficient transit systems and increasing their integration into the global trading system. Participants in the Ninth Ministerial Conference of WTO adopted an agreement aimed at further expediting the movement, release and clearance of goods. Laos and Tajikistan joined WTO in 2013, and Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Kazakhstan reached advanced stages of the accession process. The Office made significant progress in the preparations for the 2014 United Nations conference for landlocked developing countries; successfully organized the regional review meetings for Asia and Europe, Africa, and Latin America in 2013, in collaboration with the regional commissions; and supported the elaboration and negotiation of the intergovernmental agreement on the Trans-African Highway.

(b) Increased international resources in support of the special needs of landlocked developing countries

291. There was a continued increase in Aid for Trade disbursements to landlocked developing countries, from $4.7 billion in 2008 to $6 billion in 2010 and $6.4 billion in 2011. The Office made progress in its efforts to mobilize the support of international financial and development institutions, in particular the World Bank and the regional development banks, which have increased the amount of technical and financial resources for infrastructure development, transit cooperation and trade facilitation.

Subprogramme 3
Small island developing States

(a) Strengthened international support for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

292. The advocacy efforts of the Office led to an increase in the recognition of the needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing States in major forums such as the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and its outcomes and the open-ended informal consultative process on the ocean and the law of the sea. In particular, the decision to convene the Third International Conference for Small Island Developing States in 2014, which would include a 10-year review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, was linked to the advocacy efforts of the Office.

(b) Enhanced international support to small island developing States to enable them to adequately adapt to climate change

293. The Office continued to advocate enhanced international support to small island developing States, including through active participation in events such as the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The support contributed to favourable outcomes, particularly as regards international support for "loss and damages" experienced by small island developing States as a result of adverse climate change effects. Small island developing States gained a seat in the committee to administer the Green Climate Fund, which will be the primary funding mechanism to support

their adaptation to climate change. At the nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, a decision was taken to include "loss and damages" as an item under the adaptation rubric. By so doing, the international community recognized that climate change was already having an adverse impact on small island developing States and other vulnerable countries.

(c) Enhanced inter-agency collaboration and partnerships in support of the small island developing States

294. At the international level, the Office continued to be a key member of the inter-agency consultative group that includes United Nations system entities and other intergovernmental partners of small island developing States. The Office provided appropriate support during the regional preparatory meetings, including through close collaboration with regional entities and United Nations system entities operating at the regional level, including the regional commissions. The Office also organized, in collaboration with the Government of Barbados and the Caribbean Development Bank, a side event at the interregional meeting held in Bridgetown from 26 to 28 August 2013. At the event, the Office collaborated with private sector groups in the region, which enhanced support for small island developing issues. A publication containing data on small island developing States was also published.

Section 11
United Nations support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Highlights of programme results

The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa continued to support the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in their deliberations on Africa by coordinating the preparation of Africa-related progress reports. The Office coordinated and strengthened the Inter-Agency Task Force on Africa through regular meetings and followed-up on the implementation of global summit and conference outcomes related to Africa. In collaboration with partners, the Office played an active role in supporting African countries in their consultations and preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals; serviced informal consultations leading to the establishment of a monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development (General Assembly resolution 66/293); continued its substantive advocacy and analytical work towards increasing support by the international community for Africa's development; and organized high-level panel discussions, expert group meetings and briefings. ECA continued to enhance United Nations system-wide coordination at the regional and subregional levels in support of NEPAD and African Union programmes. The Africa Section of the Department of Public Information, in coordination with the Office, continued to raise awareness of key thematic issues related to NEPAD through the publication of the magazine *Africa Renewal* and the website *Africa Renewal Online*.

Challenges and lessons learned

The challenge of achieving sustainable development in Africa is inextricably linked to the global economic situation. The aftermath of the global economic and financial crisis is likely to affect foreign support to Africa, thus negatively affecting the continent's growth prospects in the medium term. In the context of the formulation of a development agenda for the post-2015 period, the implementation of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and ongoing strategic shifts at the African Union, the Office needed to be strengthened and its website revamped to meet the expanding requests and new priorities of Member States and African countries. Future programmes of support should include strategies to strengthen leadership by the African Union Commission at the regional level and by the regional economic communities at the subregional level. The role of the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism in Africa, located at ECA, continued to prove critical for stimulating joint programming among the clusters. Therefore, the capacity of the secretariat needs to be improved to ensure sustained progress in cooperation among United Nations agencies and the greatest advantages possible for beneficiary institutions.

Output implementation rate

295. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 100 per cent of 111 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

296. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 11)).

Subprogramme 1
Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

(a) Increased international community support for Africa's development, in general, and for NEPAD, in particular

297. During the biennium, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa continued its substantive and analytical work towards increasing international community support for Africa's development. In close collaboration with its partners, the Office organized a series of events during Africa-NEPAD Week to raise awareness of key thematic issues related to NEPAD. It serviced informal consultations leading to the establishment of a monitoring mechanism to review commitments towards Africa's development. Support by the United Nations system remained a key pillar of international support to the African Union and NEPAD, reaching 158 activities as at the end 2013. In addition, the Office contributed to mobilizing resources in support of Africa's development and, as a co-organizer of the Fifth Tokyo International Conference for African Development, which was held in 2013, secured $32 billion for Africa over five years. South-South cooperation was recognized as an important complement to North-South cooperation. Eight forums addressing South-South cooperation in support of Africa had been held as at December 2013.

(b) Improved United Nations coordination in providing support to Africa's development

298. United Nations coordination in providing support to the African Union and NEPAD improved, as demonstrated by the fact that 55 joint activities were carried out during the biennium, exceeding the biennial target of 50. Furthermore, the Office continued to strengthen collaboration with other United Nations entities through the regular meetings of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Africa. In 2012 and 2013, the Task Force was actively engaged in contributing to and reviewing three key reports of the Secretary-General (one on a comprehensive review of the causes of conflict, one on United Nations system support for NEPAD and one on progress made in the implementation of and international support for NEPAD). Furthermore, the Task Force contributed to the consultation process leading to the establishment of a monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development (General Assembly resolution 66/293).

(c) Increased international awareness of Africa's development issues

299. The Office continued to produce policy analyses and studies that were made available to users both in print and online, raising international awareness of key African development issues. In particular, the Office, in close cooperation with its partners, published a publication entitled *Africa's Decade of Change: Reflections on 10 Years of NEPAD* and organized panel discussions, briefings and press briefings that contributed to increasing awareness of Africa's development issues. The Office improved its outreach to non-governmental organizations with the finalization of an electronic database in September 2012. Increased international awareness of Africa's development issues, including key aspects of NEPAD, was measured by the significant number of daily visits to the Office's website.

Subprogramme 2
Regional coordination of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

(a) Enhanced coherence, coordination and cooperation among United Nations agencies and organizations in support of the implementation of the African Union's Africa Action Plan 2010-2015 and other NEPAD programmes at the regional level

300. To enhance coherence, coordination and cooperation, the nine clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism in Africa, coordinated by ECA through the subprogramme, became better engaged. Each cluster prepared demand-driven business plans, shared information and mainstreamed cross-cutting issues such as gender, youth and human rights into their work. As a result, over 14 joint programmes were implemented or were in the process of being implemented by United Nations agencies. That was achieved largely through the preparation of efficient and effective programming guidelines and the provision of extensive cluster training, including workshops on policy formulation and management, seminars, education programmes, the revamping of web portals, institutional and capacity-building activities and support to African negotiators and national delegations participating in major conferences with a view to developing African positions and strategies, among others. Together with other regional capacity-

development institutions, notably the African Capacity-Building Foundation, the subprogramme developed a master plan for the regional economic communities.

(b) Enhanced cooperation among United Nations agencies/organizations and the regional economic communities in support of the implementation of the African Union's NEPAD programmes at the subregional level

301. During the biennium, the subprogramme increased its support for the maintenance and continuity of subregional coordination mechanisms. A business plan for the joint subregional coordination mechanism for East and Southern Africa was produced and validated at a stakeholders' workshop held in Lusaka in 2012. As a result of the establishment of the joint subregional coordination mechanism, the United Nations system began engaging with regional economic communities in East and Southern Africa. The subprogramme also provided technical support in developing the business plan and in conducting the validation workshop for the subregional coordination mechanism in West Africa. As a member of the multi-agency capacity-development team and in response to a request from the African Union, the subprogramme undertook a capacity-development mapping and scoping exercise of the eight regional economic communities of the African Union. It also collaborated in the publication of the inaugural edition of *Africa Capacity-Development Outlook*.

Subprogramme 3
Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

(a) Enhanced awareness of key thematic issues of NEPAD and other issues related to economic recovery and sustainable development in Africa

302. During the biennium, the Africa Section of the Department of Public Information continued to raise awareness of key thematic issues of NEPAD through the publication of articles in the magazine *Africa Renewal* and on the website *Africa Renewal Online* that highlighted Africa's economic growth prospects, investment opportunities and progress made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, among other topics. There was a significant increase in the number of subscribers on the magazine's mailing list and of visitors to the website from readers in Africa and around the world. In 2013, approximately 100 short feature articles from *Africa Renewal* magazine were republished or reprinted in 504 media outlets in 49 countries. More than two thirds of the 181 respondents to the readers' survey expressed satisfaction with the materials published in *Africa Renewal*.

Section 12
Trade and development

Highlights of programme results

During the biennium, UNCTAD continued to address the challenge of building a more inclusive, stable and sustainable world by adopting the same integrated approach to development policy for an interdependent world that has been the hallmark of its work for five decades. At the thirteenth session of UNCTAD, in 2012, member States endorsed the Doha Mandate, in which the Accra Accord was reaffirmed. That endorsement was a positive signal for the process of multilateral cooperation. In the Doha Mandate, the need not only to generate economic growth but also to ensure that such growth is more inclusive and sustainable, was highlighted. UNCTAD conducted its work during the biennium on the basis of that ethos, translating it into concrete policy recommendations in its flagship publications. The analytical work of UNCTAD also provided an important basis for intergovernmental deliberations and consensus-building, for example at the World Investment Forum, the UNCTAD Debt Management Conference, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the working groups of the Group of 20, among others. Progress was made in strengthening the capacities of developing countries to integrate beneficially into the global economy and the international trading system, including in their efforts to design appropriate national trade policies, and to participate effectively and equitably in international trade, the trading system and regional and multilateral trade negotiations.

Challenges and lessons learned

During the biennium, the focus was on how the secretariat could make further improvements to the management and administration of UNCTAD. Progress was made in implementing a number of measures aimed at enhancing communications and outreach, improving internal and external coordination and developing a results-based management framework for UNCTAD. Other measures were being considered to improve the capacity of the secretariat to deliver more effectively on its mandate, particularly at the national level, within a climate of declining resources.

Output implementation rate

303. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 93 per cent of 1,507 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

304. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 12)).

Executive direction and management

(a) Programme of work is effectively managed

305. UNCTAD delivered 93 per cent of the planned outputs for 2012-2013, continuing to ensure the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. Under the leadership of a new Secretary-General who was appointed in 2013, several initiatives were taken that strengthened relations with member States and development partners and increased internal and external collaborations. In turn, these enabled UNCTAD to continue to produce good results and deliver on its mandates.

(b) Enhanced policy coherence in the management of the economic and social activities of the United Nations

306. UNCTAD continued to collaborate with United Nations system organizations during the biennium to ensure policy coherence in the management of economic and social activities of the United Nations. UNCTAD further collaborated with some top financial institutions, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, Governments and non-governmental organizations to strengthen the impact of its work in the areas of consensus-building and research and policy analysis, in particular by advocating the dissemination of messages based on its own research or the collective research it carries out with development partners. A total of 54 joint outputs were completed during the biennium, covering all areas of the five subprogrammes of UNCTAD, ranging from sustainable development to development finance, economic globalization, financialization of commodity markets, trade and investment measures, enterprise policies on corporate social responsibility, financial reporting standards, information and communications technology, trade and tariff barriers and biotrade.

(c) Improved dissemination and increased visibility of the work of UNCTAD

307. UNCTAD received significant media exposure: 124 press releases, 27 information notes and 32 media alerts were issued during the biennium. A total of 228 press conferences were organized in 78 countries to launch UNCTAD meetings and activities, flagship reports and other publications. Some 12,300 UNCTAD-related press clippings were collected. However, the recorded figure represents only part of what was actually published and covered by the world media. The search engines currently in use capture only a limited number of references to UNCTAD in the world media — perhaps as little as 20 per cent. In particular, media coverage generated in less widely used languages is currently not monitored. UNCTAD experts have made briefings about UNCTAD to 111 groups, reaching 3,300 students, diplomats and academics during the biennium.

(d) Improvement in the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the work of UNCTAD

308. During the biennium, UNCTAD implemented 31 gender initiatives, well exceeding the target of 19. They included: (a) advocacy initiatives, such as the high-level event on women in development that was held at the thirteenth session of UNCTAD; (b) initiatives aimed at contributing to the United Nations System-wide

Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, such as participation in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality; (c) capacity-building initiatives to, for example, reinforce women's entrepreneurship and the work programme on women and information and communications technology; and (d) initiatives aimed at raising the awareness of policymakers about trade and gender-related issues, for example by producing country case studies of Angola and Lesotho, holding three validation workshops in Angola, Cape Verde and Lesotho and providing support to the Diagnostic Trade Integration Strategy update of the Gambia.

(e) Increased timeliness of submission of documentation

309. During 2012-2013, the rate of compliance for the submission of pre-session parliamentary documents by UNCTAD to the Division of Conference Management of the United Nations Office at Geneva reached 97 per cent. Of the 164 documents submitted by UNCTAD, 162 were submitted on time. It is the fifth consecutive year that the compliance rate is above 90 per cent, the benchmark stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/233. It should be noted that in 2013 the compliance rate was 100 per cent.

Subprogramme 1
Globalization, interdependence and development

(a) Increased understanding of the global economic environment and of policy choices at the national, regional and international levels

310. The analysis and policy recommendations regarding this expected accomplishment were contained in the 2012 and 2013 editions of *Trade and Development Report* and extensively discussed at the fifty-ninth and sixtieth sessions of the Trade and Development Board. At those sessions, UNCTAD was commended for the usefulness, relevance and timeliness of its research on the ways in which income inequality affected economic growth and for the recommendations for adjusting to the changing dynamics in the world economy. Over 140 policymakers and beneficiaries indicated that UNCTAD recommendations were useful for national policymaking process; 47 Member States made positive statements on policy choices based on UNCTAD research; and 90 developing countries realized positive per capita growth rates and pursued growth-oriented macroeconomic and financial policies advocated and monitored by UNCTAD, exceeding the targets for the biennium.

(b) Progress towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries by fostering better understanding at all levels of the interplay between successful development finance strategies, debt sustainability and effective debt management

311. UNCTAD contributed to achieving a more durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries by delivering high-quality research and analytical work in the area of debt and development finance, as well as technical assistance that provides concrete solutions to country needs. Many key analysis and policy actions on debt issues were discussed in detail in the General Assembly report on external debt sustainability (A/68/203), which was endorsed in Assembly resolution

68/202. In line with this work, technical assistance was provided by UNCTAD through its Debt Management and Financial Analysis System in 69 countries, including in 106 institutions, since its inception in 1981. As at the end of 2013, 88 institutions in 58 countries were relying on the System for the day-to-day management of their debt. Overall, close to 200 capacity-building missions took place during the biennium, including on-the-job training and workshops, benefiting more than 800 officials.

(c) Improvement of decision-making, at the national and international levels, on economic policies and development strategies, on the basis of empirical, reliable and timely statistics and indicators highlighting the interlinkages between globalization, trade and development

312. During the 2012-2013 biennium, the level of interest in UNCTAD statistical products surpassed all expectations, with more than 800,000 visits and almost 14 million page views recorded from more than 200 countries (spanning more than 2,500 institutions). The *Handbook of Statistics* produced by the subprogramme was downloaded more than 29,000 times from the UNCTAD website, in addition to being widely disseminated in print form. An online edition of *Development and Globalization: Facts and Figures* published in 2012 received more than 44,000 visits and more than 92,000 page views (the PDF version was downloaded almost 4,200 times). Aiming at better quality and harmonized statistics, UNCTAD continued to work with WTO and the International Trade Centre on the compilation and publication of annual and quarterly texts on trade in services. Jointly produced quarterly trade volume indices were first released in December 2013.

(d) Improved policy and institutional capacities, and enhanced international cooperation for the recovery and sustained development of the Palestinian economy

313. UNCTAD continued to support the Palestinian people's efforts to build the economic and institutional capacities of their future State, with a total of 11 Palestinian development initiatives and institutions benefiting from UNCTAD research findings, recommendations and technical cooperation activities. At the thirteenth session of UNCTAD, the UNCTAD mandate was extended to assist the Palestinian people through an assessment of economic development prospects and an examination of the obstacles to trade and development in the occupied Palestinian territory. During the fifty-ninth and sixtieth sessions of the Trade and Development Board, delegates expressed appreciation for the support provided to the Palestinian people and requested UNCTAD to step up efforts in that regard. UNCTAD research findings have been echoed in reports of international organizations and key stakeholders. UNCTAD continued to contribute to building the knowledge base of Palestinian shippers by increasing their awareness of trade facilitation best practices and to provide training to shippers and policymakers through the implementation of a technical cooperation project worth $2.1 million.

Subprogramme 2
Investment and enterprise

(a) Increased understanding of various key public and private investment issues and of the impact of foreign direct investment on development, as well as of related policies that could promote development gains from such investment

314. The *World Investment Report* provides leading-edge research and policy analysis on investment for development. Both the 2012 and 2013 issues generated almost 2,200 press clippings, with 70 per cent of articles published in developing economies. Six months after its launch, the 2013 *World Investment Report* had been downloaded 75,000 times in 204 countries and territories, including 42 least developed countries and 29 landlocked developing countries. The *Global Investment Trends Monitor* and *Investment Policy Monitor* continued to be essential sources of information for policymakers, business leaders and international organizations. More than 35,000 downloads were registered for the first two editions of *the Global Investment Trends Monitor* in the 10 months to October 2013. The 2012 *World Investment Forum* also continued to provide an essential platform for the international community at the highest decision-making level and attracted over 1,400 investment stakeholders from 145 countries, who participated in 15 main events and meetings and a host of side events.

(b) Increased ability of developing countries to create an environment conducive to attracting and benefiting from investment for development

315. Investment policy reviews seek to improve the investment framework, policies and strategies of developing countries in order to allow them to attract higher levels of foreign direct investment and derive the largest development gains. In the course of the biennium, investment policy reviews were completed for Bangladesh, Djibouti, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Mongolia, Mozambique and the Republic of Moldova. UNCTAD provided technical assistance to these countries in support of the implementation of the recommendations made in the reviews. Five or six years after completion of an investment policy review, UNCTAD prepares an implementation report, which seeks to assess the extent to which recommendations have been endorsed and implemented. These implementation reports show that implementation has been "good" to "strong" and that there is increased interest by existing investors and increased capacity to market investment opportunities.

(c) Increased understanding of key and emerging issues related to international investment agreements and their development dimension and enhanced capacity in negotiating and implementing investment treaties and managing investor-State disputes

316. As part of its international investment agreement research and analysis, the subprogramme produced numerous products dealing with international investment agreements and their implications for sustainable development and upgraded its mapping project with a renewed focus on the treaties' sustainable development dimension. The subprogramme also continued to maintain its databases relating to international investment agreements and investor-State dispute settlements. Based on its in-depth analytical work, the subprogramme continued to provide technical assistance, including training courses and advisory services, to strengthen countries' capacities to negotiate international investment agreements that take into greater

consideration sustainable development and to better handle investor-State disputes. All of these activities contributed to fostering beneficiary countries' capacities to negotiate international investment agreements that were more supportive of their overall sustainable development strategies.

(d) Enhanced understanding and capacity to develop international competitiveness through the development of policies aimed at: (i) stimulating enterprise development and business facilitation; (ii) promoting best practices in corporate social responsibility and accounting; and (iii) establishing competitive and well-regulated insurance markets

317. During the biennium, the subprogramme launched its entrepreneurship policy framework, which helps policymakers in developing countries to formulate, monitor and evaluate national policies for entrepreneurship. The methodology adopted for the framework is the successful result of a series of expert meetings held over several years and is already being used as a basis for capacity-building work in the area of enterprise development. New installations and programmes of the enterprise development flagship initiative of UNCTAD, Empretec, were launched in 14 countries, contributing to poverty reduction and other development objectives through the training of entrepreneurs. The subprogramme also continued to work on the development of an accounting development tool, with a view to further refining the tool and facilitating its use for strengthening regulatory and institutional capacity for high-quality corporate reporting, including reporting on corporate social responsibility. Fifteen country studies were produced using the accounting development tool.

Subprogramme 3
International trade

Component 1
Strengthening international trade

(a) Strengthened capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to integrate beneficially into the global economy and the international trading system, including services development and trade, by designing and implementing trade policies and participating effectively and coherently in bilateral, regional (including South-South) and multilateral trade negotiations, as well as to address the situations arising from the increasing cost of trade finance

318. The intervention of UNCTAD has had a positive impact on strengthening institutional and regulatory capacities in trade-related policies and negotiations in developing countries, as evidenced by the greater number of countries (41) that are estimated to have increased their participation in trade negotiations. This work has contributed to developing countries' efforts to design appropriate national trade policies on an informed basis and to participate effectively and equitably in international trade, the trading system and regional and multilateral trade negotiations. UNCTAD also placed greater emphasis on the impact on development of regional dimensions of trade (South-South, South-North).

(b) Further improvement in trade and trade-related decision-making and addressing the trade and development impact of non-tariff barriers through use of analytical tools, databases and software, such as the Trade Analysis and Information System or the World Integrated Trade Solution

319. UNCTAD trade data and analysis tools, such as the Trade Analysis and Information System and the World Integrated Trade Solution, have helped policymakers, researchers and other stakeholders to identify and address market and trade opportunities and to promote more informed participation in trade negotiations at the multilateral and regional levels. UNCTAD has recorded approximately 43,000 active users of the above-mentioned tools. A related activity on monitoring and analysing actions and initiatives taken by Member States to reduce or eliminate non-tariff barriers identified six such actions and initiatives.

(c) Enhanced capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to prepare and implement national and regional competition laws, address the challenges arising from global economic crises in implementing competition and consumer protection legislation

320. UNCTAD organized and serviced the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy, as well as two ad hoc meetings of experts on consumer policies that focused on the revision of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection. Technical and capacity-building assistance was provided to developing countries and economies in transition on competition advocacy, the preparation of national competition laws, the training of competition case handlers, institution-building, including at the level of regional institutions, and consumer protection legislation. The Competition Programme for Africa conducted several sectoral studies on anti-competitive practices, strengthening the capacities of 33 developing countries (exceeding the target of 15 countries) to implement competition policy and prevent anti-competitive practices.

(d) Strengthened capacity of developing countries to design and implement mutually supportive trade, environment, climate change and sustainable development objectives in development strategies at all levels

321. UNCTAD organized various seminars and workshops to support developing countries in maximizing the positive impact and minimizing the negative effects of the interface between trade, the environment and development. Awareness-raising efforts, knowledge- and capacity-building events and analyses on sustainable development and the transition to a green economy and a climate resilient path were conducted, inter alia, at the thirteenth session of UNCTAD, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, the First BioTrade Congress and the Second BioTrade Congress. Expert meetings were also conducted, and technical assistance was provided on green sectors, on a traceability system for sustainable trade in species covered by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, on renewable energy and on culture, creativity and sustainable development. In 2012-2013, some 40 countries developed and implemented policies, plans, programmes and normative initiatives and set up inter-agency mechanisms in this regard as a result of UNCTAD policy analysis and advice. Sixteen developing countries participated in UNCTAD biotrade and biofuels initiatives.

Component 2
Commodities

Improved capacity of commodity-dependent developing countries to address trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy and to seize opportunities emerging from commodity trade and enhanced international and regional cooperation

322. Work focused on promoting international cooperation with a view to addressing trade and development challenges associated with the commodity economy, including food security and poverty reduction, through two main channels: (a) analytical studies were produced to inform and rejuvenate the debate on commodities in order to identify new policy options and facilitate dialogue about how to generate and sustain the economic development of commodity-dependent developing countries; and (b) discussion forums were organized to promote consensus on issues of importance for the growth of commodity-dependent developing countries. Two global commodities forums and two expert meetings on commodities and development were organized in 2012 and 2013. Moreover, two conferences on oil, gas and minerals were organized in Africa during the biennium.

Subprogramme 4
Technology and logistics

(a) Improved efficiency of trade logistics of developing countries

323. The research activities on maritime transport and trade facilitation issues that were included in the *Review of Maritime Transport* and transport-related newsletters obtained highest marks in the survey disseminated to readers of UNCTAD publications. The special event on sustainable freight transport conducted in the context of the thirteenth session of UNCTAD should be seen in the perspective of new mandates for UNCTAD to support the economies of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States facing challenges in terms of trade logistics. In respect of technical assistance activities, both customs automation projects and trade facilitation implementation plans had a strong impact, on trade administration efficiency and trade facilitation implementation capacities, respectively, in partner countries.

(b) Improved awareness and adoption of national and international policies in the area of science, technology and innovation, as well as information and communication technologies

324. UNCTAD technical assistance activities in the area of information and communications technology and its research and policy advice activities in science, technology and innovation achieved very positive results during the biennium. A framework for conducting information and communications technology policy reviews that was finalized in 2013 will help guide future work in this area. Research contained in the *Information Economy Report* on the software industry and on the cloud economy in developing countries yielded valuable insights, leading to policy recommendations on how to better develop the information and communications technology sector. The 2012 edition of *Technology and Innovation Report* addressed an extremely relevant policy issue, namely the promotion of South-South collaboration on technology and innovation issues. The report's findings were

widely debated by Member States and led to two new requests for technical assistance in this new area of policymaking.

(c) Better understanding, at the national level, of policy options and best practices on science and technology for development and information and communication technologies for development, including the follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

325. By providing substantive support to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and ensuring high-level participation in its sessions and the commitment of its members, two draft resolutions were recommended to the Economic and Social Council and later adopted by consensus, meeting the target for the biennium. In addition, contributions were made to facilitate policy dialogue and consensus-building at the General Assembly, resulting in a resolution on that subject, in which the Assembly recognized the role of the Commission and noted its work. During the biennium, the Economic and Social Council adopted decision 2012/228 and resolutions 2012/5 and 2012/6 and the General Assembly adopted resolutions 66/211 and 67/195, on science, technology and innovation and on information and communications technology for development, all of which were prepared by the secretariat of the Commission and reflected the importance accorded by countries to these policy issues.

(d) Enhanced capacities in developing countries in the areas of trade and investment and interrelated issues, through cross-divisional capacity-building programmes providing research, teaching and training to local institutions in developing countries

326. During the biennium, 19 universities and 11 research centres joined the Virtual Institute, which continued to support the development of teaching and research capacities of academia in developing countries. Through the first online course of the Institute, 76 researchers (27 women) from 45 developing countries and countries with economies in transition were trained on trade and poverty. The Virtual Institute provided training to 498 students (336 women) from member universities through study tours to Geneva-based international organizations and to 224 academics (68 women) through national workshops. The subprogramme delivered 92 face-to-face and e-learning courses in cooperation with other UNCTAD subprogrammes, benefiting a total of 1,368 trade operators (27 per cent women) from 36 developing countries. A total of 58 policymakers (24 women) from 36 developing countries, including 16 least developed countries, participated in the regional courses on key issues on the international economic agenda.

Subprogramme 5
Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

(a) Increased adoption of UNCTAD practical policy recommendations to promote African development in the areas of trade and development

327. The *Economic Development in Africa* series of reports contributed to policy dialogue, design and implementation in Africa. The results of a readership survey on the 2012 issue indicate that 50 per cent of respondents used the report for policy analysis and research, 25 per cent used it for policy formulation and 25 per cent used it for education and training. The recommendation contained in the 2013 issue,

on the use of a monitoring tool (or scorecard) to enhance the implementation of regional trade agreements, is currently being implemented by the East African Community. Furthermore, the 2013 issue resulted in 142 press clippings and received 18 endorsements from Member States during the annual meetings of the Trade and Development Board. The subprogramme contributed to the articulation of an African perspective on the post-2015 development agenda and provided support to NEPAD and the African Union on domestic resource mobilization and industrial development issues.

(b) Increased consensus on and adoption of policies to address development problems of the least developed countries in the global economy

328. The 2012 and 2013 issues of the *Least Developed Countries Report*, which were disseminated worldwide, aroused a strong interest owing to the topics chosen and the success of the promotional launch campaigns. The topics, which were deemed to be relevant to all least developed countries and their development partners, included the contribution of remittances to development and how diasporas can contribute to home country trade, investment and knowledge accumulation and the need to create employment for growing populations or face high social risks. The 2012 report was launched in 28 countries and the 2013 report was launched in 21 countries.

(c) Enhanced integration of trade policies and priorities in the national development plans through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries

329. Overall, UNCTAD contributed significantly to assisting least developed countries in benefiting from the Enhanced Integrated Framework and to devising ways and means to mainstream trade issues in development plans. A number of advisory missions were carried out to assist least developed countries in addressing these topics. In 2012, UNCTAD started and completed the updating of the Diagnostic Trade and Integration Study for the Gambia; assisted Mozambique and Senegal in drafting the terms of reference for updating their Diagnostic Trade and Integration Study, as agreed by the Enhanced Integrated Framework secretariat; assisted the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Guinea-Bissau in developing project proposals under tier 2; assisted the Comoros in developing a trade development strategy. In 2013, UNCTAD completed updating the Diagnostic Trade and Integration Study for Senegal; started updating the Diagnostic Trade and Integration Study for Djibouti, Mali and the Niger; and assisted the Gambia, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Senegal in developing project proposals under tier 2.

(d) Increased awareness of issues and policy options to alleviate the challenges faced by landlocked developing countries

330. The analytical work of UNCTAD improved understanding of issues of particular relevance to landlocked developing countries, such as new and emerging issues that should be injected in a new programme of action for this group of countries. Moreover, the outputs of the analytical work provided an important basis for intergovernmental deliberations, including the Fourth Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries and the thematic meeting on trade and trade facilitation, both held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in September 2012.

Analyses and advisory services aimed at promoting foreign direct investment contributed to capacity-building processes in landlocked developing countries insofar as the activities led to the preparation of investment guides and supported the exchange of best practices among countries through an enhanced flow of information. The subprogramme's activities have also helped to launch the preparatory process for the 10-year comprehensive review of the Almaty Programme of Action and mobilized support for this process within UNCTAD.

(e) Increased awareness of small island developing State policymakers of issues and policy options to build development partnerships conducive to the adoption of relevant international support measures

331. In accordance with the outcome of the UNCTAD expert group meeting on addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States more effectively, the main focus of activities and accomplishments during the biennium was on identifying a range of possible international support measures for small island developing States that could be adopted to support their resilience-building efforts and on encouraging United Nations acceptance of small island developing States' status as a means of achieving a more desirable treatment at the international level.

(f) Increased awareness of the problems faced by other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies on the way of their integration into multilateral trading systems

332. The role of the subprogramme regarding other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies is to identify and update the list of such countries on a triennial basis. The next revision of the list will be in 2014. During the biennium, a number of other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies used UNCTAD as an intergovernmental forum for consensus-building, as an institution focusing on data collection, research and policy analysis, and as a provider of technical assistance. Relevant work was carried out through the commissions, expert group meetings and technical assistance programmes. In particular, activities in favour of other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies have included training and capacity-building activities in the areas of competition law and policy, business facilitation and trade facilitation and customs modernization.

Section 13
International Trade Centre

Highlights of programme results

During the biennium, the International Trade Centre developed activities according to its mandate, including: supporting the integration of the business sector into the trade policymaking process and expanding its suite of global public goods, especially in the areas of non-tariff measures, export strategies and voluntary standards; enhancing the capacity of trade support institutions to assist small and medium-sized export enterprises; and providing trade intelligence to bring about greater transparency in trade and using global platforms and publications (both print and online) to build awareness on trade and development issues. Evaluations indicated that the Centre was perceived as a legitimate and credible provider of high-quality trade-related technical assistance and that its products and services were in demand and much appreciated by partners. Success factors included the Centre's capacity to adapt its services to local needs and circumstances and effectively transfer skills, knowledge and expertise to beneficiaries. In addition, the Centre intensified its efforts to support poor communities and create gender equality in trade by providing integrated solutions to link poor communities and women entrepreneurs to global value chains.

Challenges and lessons learned

Among the challenges identified in the evaluations undertaken during the biennium is the need to further develop and sustain clarity of vision and purpose throughout the full project cycle, as this helps to maintain control and provides a basis for assessing performance and the success of the Centre's interventions. Moreover, the Centre had to adapt to a shift in demand for trade-related technical assistance from enterprises. Owing to the changing dynamics of global trade, the enterprises that the Centre assisted required much lower capacity-building assistance in devising international business strategies and more support in the areas of market intelligence and access to markets. As a consequence, the Centre will adapt its strategy and increase its assistance in these areas in the future.

Output implementation rate

333. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 97 per cent of 532 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

334. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 13) and Add.1).

Subprogramme 6
Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development

(a) Strengthened integration of the business sector into the global economy through enhanced support to policymakers

335. During the biennium, the International Trade Centre provided support to policymakers focused on developing national and sector-specific export development strategies, mainstreaming the gender dimension in these strategies and helping the business sector to participate in trade policymaking. A total of 65 country networks composed of private sector representatives and policymakers were created or strengthened, especially in least developed countries such as Afghanistan, the Comoros, Ethiopia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Samoa and Vanuatu, to support inclusive trade policies. Special emphasis was placed on expanding private-sector involvement in the processes of accession to WTO and regional trade integration, as well as empowering trade support institutions and policymakers to lead export-strategy development processes. Business advocacy institutions played a critical role in supporting mutual recognition agreements in the East African Community to reap the economic benefits of regional integration.

(b) Increased capacity of trade support institutions to support businesses

336. During the biennium, the Centre encouraged sustainable development through exports by providing technical assistance to trade support institutions from 67 countries and five regions. The Centre continued to develop tools and implement projects aimed at improving the performance of trade support institutions and their services focusing on building its capacities to boost competitiveness and link small and medium-sized export enterprises to export value chains. Trade support institutions benefited from capacity-building efforts in the areas of trade intelligence, service portfolio development, strategic planning, leadership and results-based management, packaging, quality and standards. Through its regional projects in sub-Saharan Africa, the Centre enabled trade support institutions and its regional networks to identify regional trade opportunities. The Centre's benchmarking initiative was tested and validated with key stakeholders and rolled out to trade promotion organizations. Eight of those organizations were benchmarked; as a result, weaknesses were identified and recommendations for addressing those weaknesses were provided.

(c) Strengthened international competitiveness of enterprises through International Trade Centre training and support

337. In 2012 and 2013, nearly 7,000 small and medium-sized enterprises benefited from the Centre's assistance in the area of exporter competitiveness. Women entrepreneurs received particular attention through a host of projects with a focus on gender and trade. Projects provided either direct support to companies or worked through trade-supporting institutions to stimulate export development. Work to support enterprises focused on delivering direct, customized initiatives supporting job creation, high-value production and high export potential. The Centre facilitated an integrated sector approach, assisting groups of enterprises in the same sectors and value chains, and delivered standardized global programmes to strengthen the international business skills of entrepreneurs.

Section 14
Environment

Highlights of programme results

In 2012, in a resounding validation of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development called for strengthening of international environmental governance, and with it, strengthening and upgrading of UNEP. That decision was subsequently solidified in General Assembly resolution 67/213. The 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns was adopted at the Conference. The *Global Environment Outlook* report played an important role in providing policymakers at the Conference with comprehensive, science-based and policy-relevant environmental assessments.

UNEP and its consortium of partner institutions were selected to host the Climate Technology Centre and Network under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Celebrating its fifth anniversary, the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) has become the most significant United Nations inter-agency programme on climate change, with 48 partner countries and $150 million in funds. The Climate and Clean Air Coalition grew to over 80 member States and partner organizations with financial commitments exceeding $30 million. The secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services was established as a result of key decisions taken at the second meeting of the Platform in 2013, supported by generous financial pledges.

Challenges and lessons learned

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development has lifted many aspects of environmental governance into focus and significantly increased expectations from Member States and stakeholders at the global, regional and national levels. In the context of finite funding, a challenge will be to align projects with Conference outcomes. Close collaboration with partners has proven essential in making the presence and contribution of UNEP strong in intergovernmental consultative processes, such as in the context of the post-2015 development process. Enhanced coordination and mainstreaming of environment within the United Nations system require continuous efforts to engage the environmental expertise of the United Nations agencies in the process of defining environmental responses and strategies.

Output implementation rate

338. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 97 per cent of 188 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

339. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 14)).

Executive direction and management

(a) Improved relevance and impact of the work of UNEP for Governments

340. During the biennium 2012-2013, the relevance, usefulness and effectiveness of the Programme's work were assessed on the basis of interviews of 107 Governing Council participants conducted in February 2012. On relevance, interviewees gave a rating of 80 per cent satisfaction, meeting the set target for the biennium. The usefulness and effectiveness of the Programme's capacity-building support were rated at 72 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively.

(b) Improved leadership of UNEP in the effort of the United Nations system to ensure coherent and complementary actions by United Nations agencies on the environmental dimension of sustainable development

341. The environmental dimension of sustainable development was enhanced in the United Nations system through the work of the Environmental Management Group. The Group contributed to a system-wide approach towards environmental sustainability of United Nations operations so as to internalize environmental and social sustainability frameworks, policies and practices. In line with the target, three system-wide new initiatives were launched. Environmental concerns such as biodiversity, drylands and green economy were mainstreamed into sectoral programmes. In addition, the Group contributed to the United Nations system-wide global biodiversity mapping tool containing strategic objectives and key functions of the United Nations agencies with regard to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Efforts to move towards a climate-neutral United Nations were attested by 63 United Nations entities which submitted greenhouse gas emissions inventories and 30 entities which drafted strategies to reduce such emissions.

(c) Strengthened use of credible and coherent science in implementing the UNEP programme of work

342. Strengthened and increased use of credible and coherent science in the implementation of the UNEP work programme was attested by 50 initiatives that were carried out with wide participation by scientists. These initiatives ensured a solid scientific perspective on issues that were the subject of deliberations by the policy community and negotiations at international forums. A total of 24 science-heavy publications were produced. The 2013 *Emissions Gap Report* was probably the most referenced document at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and was downloaded more than 500,000 times during the Conference negotiations. The work of the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management was used in developing policy at the global, regional and national levels and served as an input for the deliberations of the High-level Panel on Global Sustainability, the policy dialogue of the African Development Bank and the European Commission's roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe.

(d) Strengthened accountability of UNEP towards a results-based organization

343. The Programme has acted upon 100 per cent of the recommendations and findings pertaining to audit and investigations, attesting to strengthened accountability towards results-based management. Its accountability has been further strengthened by the Executive Director's delegation of certain programmatic, financial and legal authorities to division and regional directors.

(e) Improved efficiency in the servicing of meetings of the governing bodies of UNEP

344. During the period, the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP held 10 meetings and its subcommittees held 42 formal meetings. In 2013, a series of consultations took place to discuss how better to organize the Committee meetings with increased efficiency and effectiveness, particularly in view of the new governance structure of UNEP, which increased and strengthened the role of the Committee as an intersessional subsidiary body. The Committee also developed its own calendar of work leading up to the 2014 session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, with the aim of having fewer meetings and a more focused agenda. As a result, notable improvements were instituted: including the issuance of annotations to the provisional agenda for all formal Committee meetings, making clear the expected results of the meetings and listing the relevant documents, and efforts to issue all documents four weeks in advance of the meetings.

(f) Evaluation recommendations on UNEP subprogrammes performance are acted upon

345. Substantial progress was made in preparing evaluations of the subprogrammes in the medium-term strategy. Management actions were taken on approximately 80 per cent of the recommendations formally issued over the reporting period, falling slightly short of the biennial target of 85 per cent. In addition to the three subprogramme evaluations, a formative evaluation of the 2010-2011 programme of work in the 2012-2013 medium-term strategy period was undertaken. This resulted in a total of six key recommendations which were implemented as part of the design of the new 2014-2017 medium-term strategy. In a formal peer review of the UNEP Evaluation Office, the United Nations Evaluation Group and the OECD Development and Assistance Committee gave the Office a good performance rating.

(g) Quality of UNEP programme planning and performance documents is improved

346. An online survey in December 2013 targeted 109 members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP to assess the level of satisfaction among Governments with the UNEP programme planning and performance-related documents. The survey had a response rate of 28 per cent. About 87 per cent of the respondents were satisfied with the quality and 89 per cent with the relevance of UNEP strategic and programme planning documents and the 2012 programme performance report. Suggested improvements for the programme performance report included increased focus on results and enhanced readability through the use of graphs and summaries including data about historical trends. For programming processes, greater interaction with UNEP regional offices and the involvement of representatives from member States which do not have representatives in Nairobi were presented as areas needing improvement.

(b) Timely mobilization of funding required for the delivery of the programme of work

347. The Programme is heavily dependent on traditional donors; 15 top donors cover about 93 per cent of the contributions to the Environment Fund. The difficult global economic situation has forced many Governments to become more selective and strict in their public spending, including international development cooperation. By June 2012, UNEP had received 56 per cent of the estimated total annual contributions to the Environment Fund, trust funds and earmarked contributions of $217 million. By June 2013, however, the equivalent annual figure amounted to 66 per cent. The 2013 increase can be attributed to the response of donors and partners to the call at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for predictability, security and stability of funding for UNEP.

2. United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

(a) Expanded and updated scientific assessments of exposures regionally and globally to ionizing radiation and of radiation effects on human health and the environment

348. The membership of the Committee was increased by six States, expanding the base of expertise for its assessments. The Committee shifted its priorities to address the Fukushima-Daiichi nuclear power plant accident, confronting a unique challenge to assess the available data and information reliably and independently so that Member States and the general public, particularly in Japan, could better appreciate and understand the radiological consequences of that accident. The approval of the seminal reports on attribution and uncertainty of health effects at the fifty-ninth session marked an important scientific milestone for the Committee, providing a sound platform for conveying the limitations of the science in the future. At its sixtieth session, the Committee approved a detailed report on the effects of radiation exposure of children United Nations publication, Sales No. E.14/IX.2) and endorsed its report to the General Assembly on the Fukushima assessment (A/68/46).

(b) Increased awareness and use among decision makers, the scientific community and civil society of the Committee's scientific assessments as a sound basis for decision-making on radiation-related issues

349. The International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources were revised and approved by the co-sponsoring organizations, and will be published by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Press briefings were conducted to inform the media about the status of the ongoing assessment by the Committee of the consequences of the Fukushima-Daiichi nuclear power plant accident. The Committee was represented and delivered statements at the Second Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, held in Vienna in August 2012, the International Conference on Radiation Protection in Medicine, held in Bonn, Germany in December 2012, and the International Conference on the Sources, Effects and Risks of Ionizing Radiation, held in Sanur, Bali, Indonesia in October 2013. The Committee's most recent assessment of the Chernobyl accident was translated into and published in the Russian language to improve awareness and use among the countries most affected by that accident.

Subprogramme 1
Climate change

(a) Adaptation, including an ecosystem-based approach, is incorporated into country development planning and policymaking based on scientific assessments, policy and legislative advice and lessons learned from pilot projects supported by UNEP and adaptation experiences, including an ecosystem-based approach, showcased at the global level

350. Five additional countries integrated adaptation to climate change into country development planning and policymaking. In 2012, Myanmar and Mozambique adopted national development strategies and plans incorporating adaptation. In Myanmar, a national adaptation programme of action was developed with UNEP support and endorsed by the Government, while in Mozambique the Government integrated six cross-cutting issues, including climate change, into the national socioeconomic plan and 11 provincial plans for 2013. Through the work of the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative, climate change and adaptation considerations were incorporated into Bangladesh's sixth five-year plan and Bhutan's eleventh five-year plan, as well as in climate public expenditure and institutional reviews in Bangladesh and Nepal and in climate-change budget codes in Bangladesh and Nepal.

(b) Low-carbon and clean energy sources and technologies are increasingly adopted, inefficient technologies are phased out and economic growth and pollution and greenhouse gas emissions are decoupled by countries based on technical and economic assessments, cooperation, policy advice, legislative support and catalytic financing mechanisms

351. The target of 12 countries implementing policies and measures with explicit renewable energy or energy efficiency components resulting from UNEP projects was exceeded; 27 countries implemented activities to phase out incandescent lamps by 2016. Thirty-five per cent of the world committed itself to making a transition to efficient lighting. Of the 92 countries supported in that process, 32 completed technology needs assessments, and 30 of those also produced technology action plans. Vehicle fuel-efficiency policies and standards were developed in seven countries and a mandatory fuel labelling system was adopted in one out of four pilot countries supported by the Global Fuel Economy Initiative.

(c) Countries' access to climate change finance is facilitated at all levels and successful innovative financing mechanisms are assessed and promoted at the regional and global levels

352. Despite the impact of the recent global economic downturn, UNEP managed to mobilize finance investments of approximately $432 million in clean energy through initiatives such as the Seed Capital Assistance Facility. The Facility operated in Asia and Africa through six private equity funds and provided enterprise development support and seed funding to 17 renewable energy project developments and leveraged a total investment of $330 million. The success of the Facility led to $18 million being secured from the United Kingdom and Germany to support a programme aimed at engaging funds and investors in providing early-stage financing to low carbon project developments and ventures over the next eight years.

(d) Reduction in deforestation and land degradation with countries moving towards sustainable forest management, conservation and full terrestrial carbon accounting based on tackling all drivers of deforestation, and taking fully into account co-benefits and safeguards

353. During the biennium, there were 17 countries with national REDD+ programmes designed to develop strategies to address drivers of deforestation and update sustainable forest management plans to include REDD+. Four of those countries completed their national programmes and moved into the second phase of REDD+ implementation. Against the biennial target of five, three countries (Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia and Viet Nam) integrated REDD+ into their sustainable forest management planning and set up funds for this purpose. These three countries also finalized investment plans for REDD+. Celebrating its fifth anniversary, UN-REDD, despite some initial scepticism, has rapidly grown into a significant platform for action on climate change, reaching out to 48 partner countries with over $150 million in funds and thereby becoming the most significant United Nations inter-agency programme on climate change.

(e) Increased access of target audiences to relevant climate change assessments and information for decision-making and long-term planning

354. Four major global governmental processes indicated below made use of climate-related findings by UNEP to reshape their approach to the subject matter and thereby influence national development policies. With the Camp David Declaration (May 2012), the Group of 8 recognized the impact of short-lived climate pollutants and agreed to support comprehensive action to reduce these pollutants. The Svalbard Declaration on Short-lived Climate Forcers, adopted in March 2012 by the Nordic environment ministers, stated that there is a need to regulate short-lived climate pollutants as part of the range of international environment agreements. UNEP findings were used to justify the revision, in May 2012, of the Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. The World Climate Programme was restructured in May 2013 to accommodate the Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation and to establish a firm link with the governance mechanism of the user interface platform of the Global Framework for Climate Services.

Subprogramme 2
Disasters and conflicts

(a) Enhanced capacity of Member States for environmental management in order to contribute to natural and man-made disaster risk reduction

355. The amount of international funding dedicated to initiatives using environmental management as a tool to reduce conflict and disaster risk in UNEP-assisted countries totalled approximately $12.6 million. Therefore, the target for the 2012-2013 biennium — a 50 per cent increase over December 2009 figures — was significantly exceeded. This result was largely due to a long-term resource mobilization strategy that led to substantial investments by some donors. Pilot projects and risk assessments were executed in 15 countries to catalyse practical risk reduction action. One notable result was the development of national action plans for ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction in Afghanistan, Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Sudan. Policy support, research assistance and

training were provided to some 24 institutions and countries, yielding significant results, including the development of an environmental peacebuilding community of practice. Nineteen universities in 15 countries offered graduate-level course on ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction with UNEP support.

(b) Rapid and reliable environmental assessments following conflicts and disasters as requested

356. Post-crisis assessments are demand-driven, such that progress on output delivery depends on the occurrence of a crisis and a Government request for assistance. Over the second half of 2013, environmental expertise was mobilized in four vulnerable countries to identify and mitigate acute risks in emergency situations. UNEP undertook a rapid environmental assessment of the fire in Kenya and provided recommendations on integrating environmental considerations into contingency plans. Several technical advisers were deployed to the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries to develop preparedness measures. Environmental assessments were also conducted in South Sudan, in the Philippines following typhoon Haiyan and in Côte d'Ivoire. In total, UNEP interventions since 2008 have led to the inclusion of environmental priorities and needs in the policies and plans of 17 of the 20 countries visited, representing an 85 per cent rate of acceptance of UNEP recommendations.

(c) Improved environmental management and sustainable use of natural resources that have built upon the inter-agency post-crisis assessment and recovery process

357. UNEP continued to ensure that post-crisis assessments and recovery processes contributed to improved environmental management and sustainable natural resource use. In the Sudan, UNEP supported the integration of environmental considerations into seven United Nations and international strategies and 11 government reform and legislative processes and supported the development of several new ministries with environmental mandates. UNEP catalysed the development of two private sector-driven renewable energy projects for Haiti, a country crippled by energy poverty. Moreover, on the basis of UNEP analysis, Haiti designated its first-ever marine protected areas. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNEP designed a water quality analysis strategy for a safe drinking water initiative targeting 9,000 beneficiaries. In the course of the biennium, UNEP secured approximately $31.5 million for environmental recovery projects for a combined amount of $65 million secured since 2009.

Subprogramme 3
Ecosystem management

(a) Enhanced capacity of countries and regions to integrate an ecosystem management approach into development planning processes

358. Countries were using a total of eight new plans in their development planning processes, exceeding the biennial target of five. In Kenya, two management plans — the Mau Forest ecosystem management plan and the integrated water resources management plan for the Tana River basin — were instituted to guide the restoration work of these ecosystems. Haiti has incorporated the ecosystem management approach in its regeneration development planning. A marine protected area management plan is in place in the Dominican Republic for the Silverbank

Humpback Sanctuary. Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Congo have jointly developed and adopted a transboundary protected area management plan and set up an operational secretariat. In Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, the final version of the draft intergovernmental policy agreement was approved, harmonizing legislation to ensure the comprehensive management and protection of mangroves. Senegal completed the review and pilot testing of a forest eco-taxation model. Bio-cultural community protocols in four countries (Colombia, Peru, Cameroon and Indonesia) were developed through communities' engagement in policy discussions.

(b) Countries and regions have the capacity to utilize and apply ecosystem management tools

359. The target was achieved, with 13 additional countries using UNEP-supported ecosystem management tools to address ecosystem restoration. The tools include integrated ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal ecosystems (and marine protected areas) ; mainstreaming an ecosystem approach in the management of freshwater resources; participatory management of forest ecosystems and their associated water towers; trade-off analysis to ensure that food security and the sustainable management of ecosystems do not compromise one another; and valuation of ecosystem services in order to inform policy and come up with scientific evidence for incorporating biodiversity and ecosystem services in policy. In nine ecosystems, activities are completed or under way to maintain or restore ecosystem functioning.

(c) Strengthened capacity of countries and regions to realign their environmental programmes to address degradation of selected priority ecosystem services

360. Different countries face different levels and types of ecosystem degradation. To address these, UNEP assisted countries in identifying priority ecosystem services, including those in biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, and in developing and implementing plans to realign environmental programmes to address those priorities. For instance, UNEP assisted six countries in fulfilling their commitment to target 16 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by taking action, through national budgets and with assistance from development partners, to ensure that the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity is in force and operational.

Subprogramme 4
Environmental governance

(a) The United Nations system, respecting the mandate of each entity, progressively achieves synergies and demonstrates increasing coherence in international decision-making processes related to the environment, including those under multilateral environmental agreements

361. The outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex) and subsequent General Council decisions and General Assembly resolutions introduced landmark changes in international environmental governance, including the establishment of universal membership for UNEP; the provision of secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary

contributions; and the strengthening of delivery at the regional level to fulfil its mandate. Nine decisions and initiatives contributed to a more coordinated approach to environmental issues in the United Nations system, including decisions to support Member States on green economy for sustainable development issues and to develop system-wide action plans and common approaches in areas such as chemicals management, preparation of a drylands action plan, implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020), adoption of a framework for enhancing environmental and social sustainability in the United Nations system and development of environmental management systems and voluntary environmental management peer reviews for each United Nations entity.

(b) Enhanced capacity of States to implement their environmental obligations and achieve their environmental goals, targets and objectives through strengthened institutions and the implementation of laws

362. Capacities were strengthened at the national level to implement, enforce and further develop environmental legislation in response to internationally agreed environmental goals and objectives and obligations under the multilateral environmental agreements. In particular, South Sudan, Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Namibia were supported in national law implementation processes. Good progress was made in terms of UNEP policy advice being reflected in the work of the United Nations as a whole, through inputs provided to international processes and initiatives. In particular, efforts were made to promote the importance of environmental considerations as part of United Nations-wide rule of law efforts under the aegis of the Deputy Secretary-General and on the basis of General Assembly 67/1 containing the Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels.

(c) National development processes and United Nations common country programming processes increasingly mainstream environmental sustainability into the implementation of their programmes of work

363. Environmental sustainability and climate change were mainstreamed in 25 United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks as a result of substantive support provided by UNEP to the United Nations country teams. UNEP support has involved training of country teams, contributions to country analysis (including production of national environment summaries), poverty-environment assessments and participation in key processes associated with the Framework. Poverty-environment linkages, addressed primarily through the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative, were integrated as an objective in 83 national, subnational and sectoral plans and policies in 20 countries where the Initiative is working. There was an increase in cross-sector ministerial collaboration, and reporting on poverty-environment objectives is now standard practice in 18 countries.

(d) Improved access by national and international stakeholders to sound science and policy advice for decision-making

364. A total of 24 assessments were produced, with wide participation by scientists, to provide evidence on environmental issues, ensure a solid scientific perspective on issues brought to the attention of the policy community and other stakeholders and to serve as a basis for negotiations at international forums. Most notably, the fifth *Global Environment Outlook* received unprecedented coverage in the media

following its launch in June 2012 in the run-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. UNEP-supported assessment findings were cited over 5,000 times in media reports worldwide and 101 times in leading scientific publications.

Subprogramme 5
Harmful substances and hazardous waste

(a) Increased capacities of States and other stakeholders to assess, manage and reduce risks to human health and the environment posed by chemicals and hazardous waste

365. Progress towards sound management of chemicals was reported by 110 stakeholders in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (78 Governments, 23 non-governmental organizations and 9 intergovernmental organizations) in time for inclusion in the assessment presented at the third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, held in Nairobi in September 2012. UNEP assisted 12 countries in the mainstreaming and development of legal and institutional infrastructures and cost-recovery measures for sustainable financing of chemicals management with the following results: two countries drafted new chemicals legislation; three countries assessed the needs for further development of legislation; seven countries launched assessments the cost of inaction on the basis of the process designed for the UNEP-UNDP partnership on mainstreaming sound management of chemicals into national development policies; and four countries completed their assessment of the cost of inaction.

(b) Coherent international policy and technical advice is provided to States and other stakeholders for managing harmful chemicals and hazardous waste in a more environmentally sound manner, including through better technology and best practices

366. Seventy-two governments and private companies demonstrated progress on reduction of risks associated with chemicals in products and activities. Ten companies are supplying safe use data for chemicals they sell into the supply chain through the Global Product Strategy. Under the UNEP mercury partnership, 11 Governments participated in activities to reduce the use of mercury-containing dental amalgam, improve mercury storage and disposal and reduce mercury emissions from coal fired power plants, small-scale gold mining and compact fluorescent bulbs. Exceeding the target of 8, 10 United Nations entities have taken up the UNEP guidance on harmful substances and hazardous waste. A total of 240 countries used the Programme's policy advice, guidelines and tools to address harmful substances.

(c) Appropriate policy and control systems for harmful substances of global concern are developed and being implemented in line with international obligations of States and mandates of relevant entities

367. The Minamata Convention on Mercury came into being at the plenipotentiary conference held in Minamata and Kumamoto, Japan, from 9 to 11 October 2013, completing well over a decade of science-to-policy dialogue and four years of intense facilitation of negotiations. The Convention has 94 signatories, with the United States becoming the first country to ratify it. The parties to the four

conventions (Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Ban Amendment); Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade; Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer) totalled 529.

Subprogramme 6
Resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production

(a) Enhanced understanding by Governments and other stakeholders of scientific assessment of resource flows and related environmental impacts along global value chains, as well as of potential for decoupling

368. The International Resource Panel disseminated its findings in key forums, enhancing understanding of key resource-related issues on the part of policymakers and other stakeholders. The Panel's assessments were referenced in at least 145 scientific journals, policy papers and conference papers by different stakeholders, exceeding the target for the biennium of 50 new references. For instance, the African Development Bank's green growth strategy for Africa refers to the Panel's work on decoupling natural resource use and environmental impacts from economic growth, while the European Commission's roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe used the Panel's work on decoupling and draws on data for sectors of mobility, housing and food for the strategy.

(b) Improved capacity of Governments and public institutions to identify, regulate and manage key resource challenges, mainstream environmentally sustainable aspects in their development planning and implementation and adopt policies and tools for resource efficiency

369. Thanks to the Programme's advisory services on green economy and sustainable consumption and production, national and local governments improved their capacity to manage resources and mainstream sustainability aspects in development planning in 42 countries and 12 cities (from assessment to policy implementation). Ten of these countries formally adopted related policies or began implementing them. In addition, 15 countries completed assessments of green economy options and developed policy recommendations, including the green economy action plan in Mozambique. A green growth knowledge platform, involving a global network of international organizations and experts, was developed jointly by UNEP, OECD, the World Bank and the Global Green Growth Institute to fill knowledge gaps. Finally, the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (see General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex, para. 226), and solid progress was made in developing the governance and partnership framework that will determine the success of this system-wide effort.

(c) Increased investment in efficient, clean and safe industrial production methods through voluntary action by the private sector

370. Partnerships with the private sector and within sectors grew in size and in maturity, with an additional 22 companies participating in UNEP initiatives and reporting improvements in their environmental performance. The UNEP Finance

Initiative, a partnership with 232 financial institutions, trained 945 people, mainly from the banking sector, launched 14 reports and developed one online tool to assist the mainstreaming of sustainable finance. The "Principles for Sustainable Insurance", launched at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, led to the largest collaborative initiative between the United Nations and the insurance industry, with 67 organizations, including insurance companies representing approximately 15 per cent of world premium volume and over $8 trillion in assets, having adopted the Principles. Thirty of the 42 signatory insurance companies have already publicly disclosed how they are implementing the Principles. The 33 members — including 12 private sector companies — of the Sustainable Buildings and Construction Initiative are supporting work to green the building-sector value chain and have initiated research on the resource intensity of construction materials.

(d) Demand-side decisions and consumption choices favour more resource-efficient and environmentally friendly products, driven by standardized and internationally recognized tools and communications and by an enabling social infrastructure

371. Nine more governments have joined the "Group of Friends of Paragraph 47", aimed at promoting the provision of more information to stakeholders on sustainability practices of companies. In addition to the continuous support provided to the United Nations agencies, a major achievement for sustainable United Nations was the finalization of the milestone framework for environmental management systems, which is a reference framework to implement emission reduction strategies and environmental management systems. The results include the increase from 4 to 7 in the number of United Nations entities purchasing certified emission reduction offsets; 13 entities having an official emissions reduction strategy; 5 new organizations implementing the offsets; and the increase from 0 to 5 in the number of organizations with an official sustainable procurement strategy.

Section 15
Human settlements

Highlights of programme results

Coherence in the United Nations system-wide approach to and management of human settlements activities improved during the biennium. The most significant evidence of this improvement was the adoption of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which recognized urbanization as a priority issue. The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) collaborated with other United Nations entities in the preparation of several reports of the Secretary-General. The number of countries improving their policies, legislation and strategies for inclusive urban planning, management and governance increased to 63 in 2013 compared to 39 in 2011; the number of strengthened institutions in this area increased to 74 in 2013 compared to 53 in 2011.

Awareness of sustainable urbanization was enhanced as a result of regional ministerial conferences, the World Urban Forum and the flagship reports and capacity-building activities. The number of Governments and other Habitat Agenda partner institutions using the flagship reports and other knowledge products reached 343 by the end of 2013, up from 60 in 2011. The total number of people gaining access to environmentally sound basic urban infrastructure reached 2,064,000 by the end of 2013, up from 1,581,800 in 2012, surpassing the target of 2 million.

UN-Habitat completed its institutional and programmatic review and restructuring; these are now fully aligned with the strategic plan for 2014-2019 approved by the Governing Council in April 2013.

Challenges and lessons learned

UN-Habitat addressed the decline of its non-earmarked funding through a new resource mobilization strategy and action plan. To strengthen its performance measurement, UN-Habitat learned the importance of having in place a performance measurement plan for its 2014-2019 strategic plan.

Output implementation rate

372. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 87 per cent of 835 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

373. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 15)).

Executive direction and management

(a) Enhanced policy coherence in the management of human settlements activities of the United Nations system

374. UN-Habitat prepared, in consultation with other United Nations entities, four reports of the Secretary-General in 2012 and 2013: the reports on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (A/67/263 and A/68/332) and the reports on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (E/2011/106 and E/2012/65). The Programme also made contributions to two important system-wide events and processes that resulted in three key documents: the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex); the report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda (*Realizing the Future We Want for All*, United Nations, New York, June 2010); and the report of the Secretary-General entitled "A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015" (A/68/202).

(b) Improved timeliness of submission of documentation and performance reports to governing bodies

375. The twenty-forth session of the Governing Council and all planned regular sessions of the Committee of Permanent Representatives for the biennium were convened and documents were prepared and submitted on time, with the timely submission rate increasing to 99 per cent in 2013 from 90 per cent, in 2011. Several working groups of the Committee of Permanent Representatives were also convened and the supporting documents provided within agreed timelines. Improvement in this indicator was due to internal efficiency and also the shift to paperless meetings.

(c) Financial resources to deliver medium-term strategic and institutional plan results available

376. Targets for the biennium were $60.4 million for non-earmarked funds and $283 million for earmarked funds. The approved estimated budget was $393.2 million. In terms of non-earmarked income, only $15.3 million (25 per cent) of the 2012-2013 biennium target was received. With respect to earmarked funding, contributions totalling $303.1 million were received, exceeding the target of $283 million (107 per cent of the target). This growth in earmarked resources was a result of increased funding for country-level operational activities, particularly in the area of risk reduction and rehabilitation.

(d) Programme of work is effectively managed

377. The 2012-2013 work programme implementation rate reached 92 per cent, while the overall progress in implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan based on indicators of achievement was assessed as satisfactory. About 90 per cent of the performance targets were either achieved or surpassed by the end of 2013. The biennial strategic framework and work programme and budget documents for 2014-2015 were fully aligned to the six-year strategic plan for 2014-2019. The project accrual and accountability system enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of the management of human, financial, administrative, programme and project functions of the organization.

(e) Institution aligned to deliver medium-term strategic and institutional plan results

378. The organizational restructuring process launched in 2011 was completed, except for the approval of the Secretary-General's bulletin. The restructuring facilitated full alignment of the programmatic and the organizational structures. The seven thematic areas of the strategic plan for 2014-2019, approved by the UN-Habitat Governing Council in April 2013, and the 2013-2014 work programme and budget were fully aligned to the seven subprogrammes. New policies required for implementing the organizational reform were prepared, approved and put into effect. One of the key policies is the project-based management policy, which seeks to ensure consistent quality approach in the management of the Programme's project portfolio. The project accrual and accountability system was introduced as a principal instrument for the management of the agency's project portfolio.

Subprogramme 1
Shelter and sustainable human settlements development

(a) Improved policies, legislation and strategies support inclusive urban planning, management and governance

379. The number of countries whose legislation, policies and strategies incorporated urban planning, management and governance rose from 39 in 2011 to 58 by December 2013. Following the launch of the Global Network for Safer Cities in 2012, 24 countries in Africa and the Arab States endorsed a regional framework to foster international cooperation for better public safety services. The Cities and Climate Change Initiative expanded its scope to assist 43 cities and municipalities, mainly in Asia and Africa. UN-Habitat achieved an important milestone in the refinement of its approach to planned city extensions as a key strategy for addressing rapid urban growth. Planned city extensions were designed in Colombia, Egypt, Mozambique, the Philippines and Rwanda.

(b) Strengthened institutions promote sustainable urbanization

380. By December 2013, 74 institutions (up from 53 in December 2011) were promoting sustainable urbanization. These include local government training institutions, universities and local government associations and regional or global local government training institutions. UN-Habitat, UNICEF and UN-Women implemented "Safe and Friendly Cities for All" to build capacity of local authorities and partners in Metro Manila, Nairobi, Dushanbe, Greater Beirut, Marrakesh, San Jose, Tegucigalpa and Rio de Janeiro.

(c) Cities implement inclusive urban planning, management and governance

381. By December 2013, 173 cities were implementing inclusive urban planning, management and governance with support from UN-Habitat, compared to 147 at the end of 2011. The Cities and Climate Change Initiative assisted 14 cities and towns in 10 countries in climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessments. The assessment results were integrated into the city/provincial development strategies in 2013. The Global Network on Safer Cities launched in 2012 advocated for urban safety and local crime prevention globally, targeting multiple countries and selected cities.

(d) Improved land and housing policies implemented and increased security of tenure

382. Improvements were observed in the land and housing policies owing to reforms. By December 2013, the number of UN-Habitat-supported countries in different stages of developing, implementing or completing land and housing reforms was 48, up from 37 in 2011. The number of Global Land Tool Network partners increased from 50 at the end of 2011 to 64 at the end of 2013, thus strengthening the Network's capacity to support its work at global, regional and country levels. The progress made in mobilizing support for the implementation of the continuum-of-land-rights approach as the most effective way to provide tenure security emerged as the single most important achievement of the Network. UN-Habitat's work on tenure security benefited from some prominent partnerships with other United Nations entities and contributed to a number of high-level regional land initiatives such as the African Land Policy Initiative.

(e) Slum improvement and prevention policies under implementation

383. By December 2013, 40 countries and 150 cities were developing, implementing or completing slum upgrading and prevention policies, strategies and programmes with the support of UN-Habitat and other partners, up from 26 at the end of 2011. The Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme expanded in terms of both scope and participation. An action plan was added for phase 2 for the original 12 African countries, and 18 new African, Caribbean and Pacific countries joined the Programme. Six countries (Ethiopia, Zambia, Senegal, the United Republic of Tanzania, Liberia and South Africa) were given support in revising their national urban development policies and defining city-wide slum upgrading strategies. Thirty countries from the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions completed their national urban profiles and three city profiles on average per country through the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme.

Subprogramme 2
Monitoring the Habitat Agenda

(a) Improved awareness of sustainable urbanization conditions and issues at the local, national and global levels

384. The number of downloads of the global flagship reports reached 119,970 by the end of 2013, up from 87,701 by the end of 2012. This was partly due to enhanced awareness of the Programme's products reaching a wide audience following effective introduction of new initiatives such as newsletters. The number of Governments and other Habitat Agenda partner institutions using the flagship reports and data from the best practices programme in their education and training programmes had risen to 343 by 2013, up from 120 in 2012. UN-Habitat registered significant achievements during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Sustainable urban development was recognized as a priority issue in the outcome document, "The future we want" (General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex).

(b) Habitat Agenda partners actively participate in the formulation of sustainable urbanization policy

385. Cooperation agreements between UN-Habitat and Habitat Agenda partners increased from 248 at the end of 2011 to 497 at the end of 2013, exceeding the target of 319 for 2013. The number of youth groups participating in policy formulation and implementation of human settlements programmes increased from 100 at the end of 2012 to 283 by December 2013. This increase is partly due to UN-Habitat enhancing its regional and country-level advocacy and mobilizing Habitat Agenda partners to formulate and promote sustainable urbanization policies. In 2013, seven countries in the Arab States region, including Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman, endorsed the regional urban development strategy framework for the Arab States.

(c) Monitoring of sustainable urbanization conditions and trends improved

386. UN-Habitat has become the premier centre of reference for the production and use of urban statistics. There was improved monitoring of global trends and conditions on sustainable urbanization through the UN-Habitat indicators programme, the urban observatories the flagship reports and the City Prosperity Index. The capacity of national and local authorities to monitor sustainable

urbanization trends and conditions increased, as evidenced by the growing number of national and local urban observatories using UN-Habitat guidelines. That number reached 274 in 2013, exceeding the target of 200. At least 10 national reports were produced after the publication of State of the World's Cities reports. More than 50 cities are using the City Prosperity Index to assess their prosperity and set up action plans towards a more prosperous future.

(d) Improved awareness among Governments and Habitat Agenda partners of the contribution of urban economic development and finance to poverty reduction and sustainable human settlements development

387. There was progress on UN-Habitat contribution of information through evidence-based research and publications on urban economic development and finance systems. A total of 148,438 downloads (up from 112,029 at the end of 2011) had been made by Governments and other partners as at December 2013. The most popular themes included urban economy, local economic development, youth empowerment and entrepreneurship and housing and municipal finance. During the biennium, seven requests were received (from Cape Verde, Kenya, Columbia, the Philippines, Mozambique, Egypt and Ethiopia) for policy guidelines on local economic development and municipal revenue enhancement.

Subprogramme 3
Regional and technical cooperation

(a) Improved sustainable urbanization policies from local to regional levels

388. The number of countries whose legislation, policies and strategies incorporated urban planning, management and governance increased from 39 in 2011 to 56 as at December 2013. The number of crisis-prone and post-crisis countries whose policies, legislation and strategies incorporated urban risk and vulnerability-reduction measures increased from 11 in 2011 to 34 in December 2013. The development and endorsement, by the respective Member States, of the regional strategies for sustainable urban development for the Africa and Arab States regions strongly positioned countries in those regions to promote policies and strategies that support urban planning, management and governance.

(b) Improved urban planning, management and governance at national and local levels

389. UN-Habitat continued to support the efforts of national Governments to improve their policies, legislation and strategies for inclusive urban planning management and governance. The number of strengthened institutions to implement inclusive urban planning management and governance increased from 53 in 2011 to 74 in December 2013. The latter number included 28 government-training institutions, 14 universities and 13 local government associations. The completion of the National Urban Policy Framework and the commencement of the development of International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning are key milestones in sustainable urbanization policy guidance by UN-Habitat. UN-Habitat achieved an important milestone in the refinement of its approach to planned city extensions as a key strategy for addressing rapid urban growth, in particular for intermediate cities.

(c) Improved access to land and housing

390. The number of countries at different stages of developing, implementing or completing land and housing reforms increased to 47 countries by 2013, up from 36 countries at the end of 2011; the number of countries working with UN-Habitat to develop and implement policies to improve security of tenure and reduce forced evictions increased to 35 by the end of 2013, up from 29 in 2012. Notable progress was achieved towards promotion of security of tenure in post-disaster countries in Afghanistan, Haiti, Somalia and Iraq. Sustainable approaches to land policy are being mainstreamed in Africa and the Eastern Caribbean regions with technical support from UN-Habitat. The national housing profiles conducted in different countries have contributed to improved understanding of the shift in housing policy and informed the development of the global housing strategy.

(d) Expanded access to environmentally sound basic infrastructure services with special focus on the unserved and underserved population

391. The support provided by UN-Habitat and partners continued to have a catalytic effect on national policy reforms and institutional capacities for improved access to basic urban services, resulting in adoption of financing mechanisms targeting poor households. The total number of people in target communities who gained access to environmentally sound basic urban infrastructure reached 2,064,000 by the end of 2013, surpassing the target of 2 million. An external evaluation of the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for 2008-2013 conducted in 2012 concluded that the policy reforms and ongoing programmes in the water and sanitation sector had improved access and increased affordable water and sanitation services coverage to low-income groups at the municipal and community levels in several countries.

Subprogramme 4
Human settlements financing

(a) Increased institutional efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of basic urban infrastructure services

392. Progress continued to be achieved towards improving institutional efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of basic urban infrastructure services through the Programme's institutional capacity-building work with urban basic services utilities. The percentage of service providers (water and sanitation utilities) supported by UN-Habitat that were able to recover at least 95 per cent of the operation and maintenance costs of services increased from 40 percent in 2011 to 75 percent in 2013. The number of institutions that had adopted progressive mechanisms aimed at expanding access to environmentally sound urban basic services increased from 126 in 2011 to 136 by the end of 2013, up from 126 in 2011, thus exceeding the target by 13 per cent.

(b) Consumer demand for efficient and environmentally sustainable basic urban infrastructure and services is met

393. Consumers' awareness and knowledge of their rights to basic urban infrastructure services in partner cities increased, partly as a result of the different interventions by UN-Habitat and its partners. UN-Habitat contributed to this through capacity-building of service providers and awareness-raising of urban

consumers. The global online monitoring system, "Monitoring services to inform and empower", contributed to reduced costs for monitoring and improved the quality and quantity of data collected. Similarly, as part of the development of management toolkits for water operators, the Global Water Operators' Partnership Alliance designed a manual for low-cost remote urban analysis, including classification of neighbourhoods according to socioeconomic status.

(c) Increased investment in affordable and social housing stock and related infrastructure

394. The operational activities of Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations and the Slum Upgrading Facility were discontinued in 2011, in line with Governing Council resolution 23/10. That decision affected the achievement of the results intended for this focus area. However, partners continued implementation of all the projects that had received funding. In the case of the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations, UN-Habitat was not able to identify a suitable partner to take over the operational activities in accordance with the decision of the Governing Council. Follow-up and monitoring of loan repayment under existing projects continued to be assured by the new Urban Economy Branch. Partners who received loans are on schedule in their repayments.

(d) Increase in activities in municipal finance and affordable housing finance

395. Apart from the $3,629,597 raised by the end of 2011 for the four-year field test of the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations, no further resources were raised. Expected accomplishments as planned were therefore not achieved. In response to Governing Council resolution 23/10, the normative activities of the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations and the Slum Upgrading Facility were relocated to the new Urban Economy Branch, whose main focus is promoting municipal revenue enhancement through innovative revenue generating instruments.

Section 16
International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice

Highlights of programme results

As a result of ongoing technical assistance, training and advisory services, near-universal adherence to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was achieved during the biennium 2012-2013. Ten States joined the United Nations Convention against Corruption and 55 completed their review in the framework of its implementation review mechanism. Cumulatively there were 49 new ratifications of the 18 international legal instruments against terrorism by assisted Member States. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) continued to maintain and improve its data collection and management system, to disseminate drug and crime statistics and to publish analytical studies on specific drug and crime problems. The annual *World Drug Report*, the biennial *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, transnational organized crime threat assessments and several

drug and crime survey reports were published. UNODC also worked on strengthening the capacity of States to improve crime prevention and criminal justice systems in line with United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant international instruments. More than 100 countries received UNODC assistance in implementing drug-use prevention interventions, dependence treatment and rehabilitation as well as programmes and strategies on HIV/AIDS.

Challenges and lessons learned

Resource constraints posed a challenge to meet the increasing needs of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the implementation review mechanism of the Convention against Corruption. Adequate, predictable and sustainable funding to enable UNODC to implement its mandates effectively therefore remains a critical issue. There continues to be a lack of crime data as well as data on the performance of criminal justice systems, making it difficult to develop evidence-based programmes. In order to make a real impact, long-term interventions are often needed.

Output implementation rate

396. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 83 per cent of 1,437 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

397. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 16) and Corr.1).

Executive direction and management

(a) Programme of work is effectively managed

398. During the biennium, the Office effectively implemented its programme of work, including providing quality support to the Executive Director, monitoring and ensuring implementation of management decisions, coordinating policy and management activities among the various divisions, coordinating the day-to-day and mid- and long-term activities of the Office of the Director-General/Executive Director with regard to scheduling and travel plans, facilitating meetings of the Executives Committee, independent evaluation functions and providing legal advisory, protocol and speechwriting services. Continuous efforts were made throughout the biennium to ensure the effective and timely delivery of outputs and services of programmed activities within the subprogrammes of the Office's work.

(b) Improved geographical representation and gender balance of staff

399. UNODC exceeded the target with regard to geographical balance and continued to gradually improve representation of women among its staff. During the biennium, four out of eight staff members selected for geographical posts were from unrepresented or underrepresented Member States. In the Professional and higher categories, UNODC achieved a slight increase in the representation of women

during the biennium, from 44.5 per cent (at the end of 2011) to 44.6 per cent (at the end of 2013).

(c) Identification of emerging issues that require attention by Member States

400. In 2012 and 2013, the Executive Director continued the practice of meeting regularly with Member States on current and emerging issues, briefing various groupings of Member States and addressing high-level events. In addition, the Executive Director undertook field visits to 44 countries across several regions with a view to strengthening the Office's regional, subregional and country-level presence, expanding cooperation and mobilizing political support and momentum in the implementation of the Office's mandate.

(d) Timely recruitment and placement of staff

401. The average number of days that a professional post remained vacant was considerably reduced during the cycle, from 195 days in the 2010-2011 biennium to 113 days in 2012-2013, mainly thanks to regular reporting to management, extensive training of hiring managers and provision of specially developed procedural guidance to them, including templates and a summary of "dos and don'ts". Unavoidable delays in making selection decisions were due to the need to have post funding confirmation prior to making a selection decision, as about 90 per cent of UNODC posts are funded through voluntary contributions. To expedite the filling of posts, UNODC is advertising envisaged but not yet funded job openings.

(e) Enhanced policy coherence in the management of the activities of the United Nations

402. During the biennium, the UNODC continued to contribute to the United Nations system coordination efforts, including those relating to inter-agency affairs, policy and programme matters and formal agreements, as well as coordinate responses to reports and requests of other entities of the United Nations system. In February 2013, the Secretary-General's Policy Committee decided to extend membership of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking as threats to security and stability, to the World Health Organization and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat. In November 2013, UNODC, together with the Department of Political Affairs, organized a task force meeting which adopted key messages on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking and discussed the development of a task force strategy for inputs into the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.

(f) UNODC technical cooperation programmes evaluated according to the United Nations Evaluation Group standards

403. In 2012, four in-depth evaluations were led and completed by the Independent Evaluation Unit, and in 2013 four in-depth evaluations and one global programme evaluation were completed and disseminated. Evaluation findings and recommendations were presented to stakeholders, Member States and senior management. In 2012, the Independent Evaluation Unit further provided backstopping to several evaluations, with 11 project evaluations and seven self-evaluations finalized and published on the website. In 2013, 16 project evaluations and eight self-

evaluations were completed, according to project managers' evaluation plans. The Independent Evaluation Unit has further revised evaluation normative tools, guidelines and templates to be mandatorily used in the evaluation process, developed an online tool for project and self-evaluations, ensuring adherence to evaluation norms and standards, and established a network of evaluation focal points at headquarters and in the field. The evaluation policy was updated in line with recommendations from different oversight bodies, reflecting the needs of the organization.

Subprogramme 1
Countering transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking, including drug trafficking

(a) Member States ratify the international drug control conventions and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto and enact domestic legislation in line with these instruments

404. The number of parties having ratified the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto increased to 179 with 14 new ratifications during the biennium for the Convention, 159 with 12 new ratifications for the protocol against trafficking in persons, 138 with 9 new ratifications for the protocol against the smuggling of migrants and 107 with 17 new ratifications for the firearms protocol. During the biennium, three parties ratified the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, bringing the total number of States parties to 188.

405. UNODC provided assistance with regard to the ratification and implementation of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. UNODC provided pre-ratification advice to Thailand, which ratified the Convention in 2013, and assisted Viet Nam in the review of its penal legislation. It provided training on international cooperation in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq; supported legislative drafting processes in Myanmar and Cambodia; assisted 11 States in evaluating their compliance with the Convention; and provided legislative support on the international drug control conventions to Albania, Liberia, Libya, Timor-Leste and Ukraine.

(b) Member States are equipped to take effective action against transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, money-laundering, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms; and emerging policy issues as mentioned in General Assembly resolution 64/179

406. UNODC has developed a number of tools to assist Member States in taking action against transnational organized crime, including model legislative provisions against organized crime, manuals on international cooperation in criminal matters, guidelines for crime prevention and criminal justice responses with respect to trafficking in cultural property, a draft comprehensive study on cybercrime and a knowledge management portal ("SHERLOC") containing organized crime case law and legislation. Since October 2013, the "SHERLOC" portal has received 851 visits, 244 of them unique. In 2013, 128 cases were uploaded into the case law database and 588 entries were made in the database of legislation. UNODC also continued to

refine other tools, such as the directory of competent national authorities and the mutual legal assistance request writer tool.

Subprogramme 2
Countering corruption

(a) Improved capacity of Member States to prevent and fight corruption in line with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

407. In response to needs that emerged from the implementation review mechanism of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, technical assistance was provided by UNODC anti-corruption field-based advisers and headquarters-based staff to build the capacity of anti-corruption bodies and criminal justice institutions to prevent, investigate and prosecute corruption; participate in international cooperation in criminal matters pertaining to corruption; and engage in asset recovery efforts. Over 1,000 participants benefited from national and regional training exercises. Tools were developed to meet the needs of national authorities to effectively prevent and combat corruption, including a strategy for safeguarding against corruption in major public events; a guidebook on anti-corruption in public procurement and the management of public finances; a resource tool for Governments and journalists to report on corruption; resource guides on State measures for strengthening corporate integrity and on strengthening judicial integrity and capacity; and a study on criminalization approaches to combat match-fixing.

(b) Enhanced decision-making and policy direction by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and its subsidiary bodies and the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

408. As the secretariat to the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, UNODC supported technically and substantively the fifth session of the Conference, its working groups on prevention and asset recovery, the Implementation Review Group and the expert group meetings on international cooperation. UNODC contributed to the work of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for all mandates related to corruption. UNODC followed up on the Salvador Declaration adopted at the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2010 and engaged in technical and substantive preparations for the Thirteenth Congress (2015). Through the implementation review mechanism of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, 55 country reviews were completed (and the respective executive summaries of the country reports were shared as United Nations documents), with 114 countries still under review.

(c) Improved capacity of Member States to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to address economic fraud and identity-related crime

409. During the biennium, 10 countries ratified or acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Ten field-based advisers and 30 headquarters-based staff provided tailored assistance to countries to advance the ratification process of

the Convention; legislative drafting assistance and legal advice for States to incorporate provisions of the Convention in their domestic legislation; support for setting up and strengthening national institutional and policy frameworks; support to prevent corruption in the public and private sectors; and education and awareness on the role of civil society organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the media, youth and the general public. UNODC ensured coordination and cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations in implementing the different activities. Specific efforts also aimed at integrating anti-corruption in development assistance and in supporting South-South learning.

Subprogramme 3
Terrorism prevention and combating

(a) Improved capacity of Member States to prevent terrorism in accordance with the rule of law

410. During the biennium, UNODC provided legal and capacity-building assistance to 111 countries, resulting in 49 new ratifications of 18 international legal instruments against terrorism and the training of 5,303 national criminal justice officials. Twenty-six countries were provided with legislative drafting assistance. Four new technical assistance tools were developed, including one for countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes; new training curriculum modules on transport-related terrorism offences and on human rights and criminal justice response to terrorism; and a training module for judicial police officers in the Sahel region. Furthermore, a new online course entitled "International criminal cooperation: a key tool in the fight against terrorism in the Sahel region" was developed.

(b) Improved capacity of Member States to implement the international conventions and protocols related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism, as well as relevant Security Council resolutions, in pursuance of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy of the United Nations

411. UNODC continued to develop the range of its specialized technical assistance in such areas as countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism and support to victims of terrorism, among others, and focused on sustainable training through the implementation of train-the-trainers programmes and expansion of the online training platform, which offers online courses and real-time discussions to a worldwide audience of criminal justice practitioners. During the biennium, UNODC carried out for the Member States 165 national, regional and subregional technical assistance and capacity-building activities on the international legal framework against terrorism and selected technical issues in preventing and combating terrorism.

Subprogramme 4
Justice

(a) Enhanced capacity of Member States to develop and maintain fair, humane and accountable domestic criminal justice systems in accordance with the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant international instruments

412. During the reporting period, UNODC worked on strengthening the capacity of States to improve criminal justice systems in line with the United Nations standards

and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant international instruments. In particular, the Office assisted Member States in developing and implementing policies and strategies of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the basis of UNODC assessments, advice and programme support; developing and implementing Commission policies and strategies using UNODC tools and training; and developing or updating standards and norms.

(b) Improved capacity of Member States to prevent crime in accordance with the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant international instruments

413. During the reporting period, UNODC worked on strengthening the capacity of States to improve criminal justice systems in line with United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant international instruments. In particular, the Office assisted Member States in developing and implementing policies and strategies of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the basis of UNODC assessments, advice and programme support; developing and implementing Commission policies and strategies using UNODC tools and training; and developing or updating standards and norms. During the biennium, 15 countries, as compared to 10 in 2010-2011, received UNODC assistance and used tools, manuals and training materials to develop, adopt and implement strategies and programmes for crime prevention, particularly in the area of urban crime and violence prevention.

Subprogramme 5
Health and livelihoods (Combating drugs and HIV)

(a) Increased implementation at the national level of evidence-based services related to drug use in the community

414. UNODC provided 96 countries with assistance for the provision of evidence-based services related to drug use in the community. Such assistance was provided in connection with evidence-based drug use prevention in line with principles of effectiveness (15 countries), drug dependence treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration in line with principles of effectiveness (41 countries) and the adoption and implementation of strategies and programmes on HIV/AIDS as related to drug users, including injecting drug users (40 countries).

(b) Individuals living in prison settings being less vulnerable to drug use and HIV/AIDS

415. Upon request from Member States, five countries received assistance from UNODC to establish and/or scale up legislation, strategies, training and awareness raising in relation to drug dependence in the criminal justice system, and 25 countries received support from UNODC to develop, adopt and implement HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support policies and programmes in a recovery-oriented continuum of care in the criminal justice system.

(c) Individuals who might be or have been trafficked being less vulnerable to drug use and HIV/AIDS

416. The work in this area is provided as part of ongoing projects of UNODC in the area of human trafficking. With regard to the work on HIV/AIDS as it relates to

human trafficking, 15 countries during 2012-2013, as compared to 10 countries during 2010-2011, developed, adopted and implemented strategies and programmes on drug use and HIV/AIDS as related to human trafficking.

(d) Improved capacity of Member States to design, implement, monitor and evaluate sustainable crop control strategies through alternative development or preventive alternative development and to provide sustainable livelihoods to populations vulnerable to drug dependence and crime as a result of social and economic marginalization

417. The Secretariat advised the Governments of Myanmar, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Ecuador on crop control strategies. Member States met to discuss and formulate inputs for a set of guiding principles to be used to design, implement, monitor and evaluate sustainable crop control strategies. The guiding principles were adopted by consensus at the International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Lima in November 2012, by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2013, by the Economic and Social Council in August 2013 and, as the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development by the General Assembly in December 2013 (see resolution 68/196).

Subprogramme 6
Research and trend analysis

(a) Enhanced knowledge of trends, including emerging trends in drugs and specific crime issues, available to Member States and the international community

418. Acting in its capacity as a repository of analytical expertise in drugs and crime, UNODC continued to maintain and improve its data collection and management system, to disseminate drugs and crime statistics and to publish analytical studies on specific drugs and crime problems. UNODC published the annual *World Drug Report*, the biennial *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, transnational organized crime threat assessments for West Africa, Eastern Africa and East Asia and the Pacific and several drug and crime survey reports. These reports were widely used by the international community, as evidenced by the increased number of downloads (from 2 million in 2011 to 3.17 million in 2013) and citations (from 2,000 in 2011 to 2,760 in 2013). Further UNODC assisted Member States in building their data collection and monitoring capacities, including those relating to illicit crops and drug abuse, corruption and victimization.

(b) Improved scientific and forensic capacity of Member States to meet appropriate professional standards, including increased use of scientific information and laboratory data for inter-agency cooperation activities and in strategic operations, policy and decision-making

419. The international collaborative exercises continued to record significant progress with 156 laboratories from 55 Member States participating in 2013. The exercises helped drug-testing laboratories to continuously monitor their own performance on a global scale. Normative activities towards internationally accepted standards included developing manuals/guidelines on methods for forensic analysis and laboratory best practices, and in the non-drug sector focused on security document examination. Direct assistance to support interdiction capacity included drug and precursor field testing kits (1,161), crime scene investigation kits (312)

and reference standards of controlled drugs (2,720) for laboratory testing. Activities under the Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme included work on new psychotropic substances, the related report on global challenges and the development of the early warning advisory.

Subprogramme 7
Policy support

(a) Enhanced decision-making and policy direction by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, and by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

420. In the surveys conducted among members of the extended bureau of the Commissions in 2013, full satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of the technical and substantive services provided by the Secretariat, including the quality of the session documents and conference services, was expressed by all nine of the nine members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs who submitted the survey and all nine of the nine members of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice who submitted the survey. The number of extended bureau members expressing full satisfaction remained the same in 2013 compared with the baseline value in 2012.

(b) Enhanced quality of services provided for implementation of the work of the International Narcotics Control Board

421. In the surveys conducted among Board members in 2012, 11 of the 13 Board members submitted the survey and all expressed full satisfaction. In the surveys conducted among Board members in 2013, 11 of the 13 Board members submitted the survey and all expressed full satisfaction. The proportion of Board members expressing full satisfaction increased in 2012-2013 compared with the baseline value for 2010-2011, which was 80 per cent.

(c) Increased public awareness of issues related to drugs, crime and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as of the relevant United Nations legal instruments, standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

422. The number of visitors to the UNODC home page remained constant at 200,000 to 250,000 unique visitors per month. The website was maintained in English, French and Russian. UNODC launched its most successful awareness campaign, featuring a video on transnational organized crime viewed online 100,000 times and aired over 350 times by international television networks. Followers of the UNODC Twitter account climbed in 2013 from 22,000 to 39,450 and Facebook "likes" from 25,000 to 38,300. Two global campaigns were launched for International Anti-Corruption Day: "ACT against Corruption" in 2012 and "Zero Corruption — 100 % Development" in 2013, respectively. For International Drugs Day 2013, a new campaign was launched on the subject of new psychoactive substances. A brochure targeted at donors was produced to raise funds for the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Support was given for a fundraising event with UNODC Goodwill Ambassador Nicolas Cage.

(d) Increased support for national drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice activities

423. Overall relations with donors were managed under the subprogramme, as well as the workflow related to pledges and contributions to UNODC. The actual number of contribution agreements declined slightly in 2012, even as the overall funding went up. The funding level was stable in 2013, but the number of funding agreements increased by 22 per cent. While some donors began pledging larger amounts and making more multi-year pledges, others made numerous small pledges. Overall, there were significant variations in donor funding practices.

(e) More activities to mobilize resources to meet this objective

424. Donor relations and the workflow for all incoming pledges and contributions to UNODC were managed under the subprogramme. Resource mobilization missions were dispatched to the following major donor countries: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. A donor relations component was also incorporated in substantive visits to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and in a high-level interdivisional mission to review the UNODC Regional Office for Southern Africa. Further, the Executive Director visited five major donor countries: Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway and the United States. In addition, seven briefings were organized with substantive colleagues from headquarters to raise awareness of the Office's work among permanent missions in Vienna. Work was also done on the conceptualization and roll-out of full cost recovery, approved by the Commissions at the end of 2013 for application during 2014-2015.

Section 17
UN-Women

Highlights of programme results

Working at the global, regional and country levels, UN-Women integrated normative support, operational activities, coordination, strategic partnerships, knowledge management and advocacy to bring real change to women's and girls' lives. At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, advocacy by UN-Women resulted in the recognition of the centrality of gender equality to sustainable development. The Entity's efforts also ensured a historic agreement at the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women: a comprehensive plan that pushes the frontier on norms and commitments of Member States to end violence against women. Through its regional architecture, UN-Women strengthened its country-level presence. It supported United Nations efforts for system-wide coherence, which is conducive to greater focus on gender equality. This included its programmatic presence in most "delivering as one" countries, as well as its active contribution to expanding the "delivering as one" modality. A major step forward in enhancing accountability of the United Nations system on gender equality was the endorsement by the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, in 2012, of the United Nations system-wide

Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, whose development was led and coordinated by UN-Women. Fifteen entities have already created gender equality policies aligned with the Action Plan, with UN-Women providing direct support for the development of six of these.

Challenges and lessons learned

It is critical that all stakeholders continue to solidify progress made and accelerate action and investment to effectively overcome gaps that perpetuate inequality and discrimination against women and girls. Two key opportunities lie ahead in this regard: the development of the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals, as well as the 20-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Going forward, UN-Women will seize these and all other opportunities to be a leading voice and advocate for gender equality and to make a lasting difference for women and girls everywhere.

Output implementation rate

425. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 93 per cent of 238 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

426. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 17)).

Executive direction and management

(a) Programme of work is effectively managed

427. After three years of operation, UN-Women has become a strengthened organization in its structures, capacities and experience of how to achieve its mandate. During the biennium, UN-Women led the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, with an emphasis on five thematic areas: promoting women's economic opportunities, ending violence against women and girls, improving women's role and leadership in peace, security and humanitarian response, and promoting gender-responsive planning and budgeting. The Entity's programme was structured into three areas: (a) partnerships, coordination and intergovernmental work, (b) programme and policy and (c) management and administration. The new regional architecture of UN-Women, approved by its Executive Board in November 2012, resulted in the consolidation and expansion of its regional and country presences, which empowered senior leaders in the field to make strategic decisions that are responsive to national and regional priorities and ensure effective cooperation with the United Nations system.

(b) Timely and quality submission of relevant documents for consideration by the governing bodies

428. During the biennium, UN-Women sought to expand and deepen norms and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women, both as an end in itself and as an essential step in the realization of human rights, peace and security and development. The Entity delivered on its normative mandate through substantive support to the Commission on the Status of Women, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council, to which UN-Women reports routinely on agenda items on gender equality, as well as through engagement with sectoral intergovernmental bodies to strengthen attention to gender equality in their deliberations and outcomes. In addition, parliamentary documentation prepared by UN-Women supported the work of its Executive Board.

Subprogramme 2
Gender issues and advancement of women

(a) Intergovernmental support and strategic partnerships

(a) Enhanced capacity of the Commission on the Status of Women to fulfil its mandates, including the promotion of gender mainstreaming in all political, economic and social spheres

429. UN-Women supported the preparation for and the servicing of the fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. In particular, the Entity prepared eight reports of the Secretary-General for the fifty-sixth session and four for the fifty-seventh session and enabled broad participation and engagement of civil society, including grassroots-level women. While Member States could not reach agreed conclusions on the priority theme at the fifty-sixth session, key resolutions were adopted, tackling such issues as gender equality and the empowerment of women in natural disasters; maternal mortality and morbidity; and indigenous women. Subsequently, UN-Women embarked on an unprecedented level of preparations, substantively and in terms of advocacy, mobilization and alliance-building, which led to the historic outcome of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women. The agreed conclusions of the fifty-seventh session provided Member States with a clear plan setting out specific policy actions to eliminate and prevent all forms of violence against women and girls.

(b) Enhanced capacity of the United Nations system entities to mainstream gender perspectives, to improve the representation of women and to undertake targeted measures to empower women in policies and programmes of the United Nations system in a coherent way

430. Important advances were made in gender mainstreaming and accountability in the United Nations system. Since the development of the United Nations system-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, led by UN-Women and endorsed by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the Entity provided leadership and support to ensure reporting on the Action Plan. It assisted at least 23 United Nations entities in the course of the biennium to establish baselines, develop strategies and improve institutional capacity. UN-Women actively supported the process and agreement on a Policy Committee paper instructing the Secretariat to take positive measures on gender parity at all levels. In addition to leading the preparation and the endorsement by the

United Nations Development Group of a gender marker guidance note to track United Nations entities' allocations to gender equality, UN-Women also worked through inter-agency mechanisms at Headquarters and the field to ensure integration of gender perspectives in activities and outcomes.

(c) Enhanced capacity of UN-Women to support Member States' efforts to achieve internationally agreed and national gender equality priorities

431. UN-Women bolstered its capacity to mobilize and leverage adequate resources, enabling it to strengthen its institutional capacity in line with the vision leading to its creation. This helped ensure that, of the 130 Member State pledges to UN-Women, a third were in the multi-year format, so as to help ensure sustainability and predictability of funding. Apart from traditional donors, a number of new donors, including developing countries, contributed. In addition, the programme established a private sector and foundations team that strengthened partnerships with several companies and foundations. These partnerships began to bear fruit in the form of financial resources and innovative programming, as well as high visibility in the media. More broadly, UN-Women continued to strengthen partnerships with multiple actors to influence global agendas and enhanced its role as the global advocate for women's rights with successful communication initiatives, including through social media.

(b) Policy and programme activities

(a) Enhanced policy support for the promotion of the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the 2005 World Summit and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

432. UN-Women leveraged its intergovernmental support functions to strengthen norms and standards on gender equality, and successfully framed women's empowerment not only as a human rights issue, but also a developmental and peace and security issue. Key developments during the biennium included the recognition of gender equality's centrality to sustainable development at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the agreed conclusions on violence against women adopted at the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, and Security Council resolutions 2106 (2013) and 2122 (2013) on women and peace and security. The Entity's engagement at the Economic and Social Council was also instrumental in laying a strong gender equality foundation for the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities of the United Nations system. UN-Women supported the implementation of norms and standards on gender equality through its operational work at the regional and country levels, especially in violence against women, peace and security, leadership and participation, economic empowerment and national planning and budgeting. This included supporting the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

(b) Effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security by the United Nations system

433. During the period, major legal, normative and policy advancements were made. This included the adoption of the Security Council resolutions 2106 (2013) and 2122 (2013), General Recommendation 30 of the CEDAW, the criterion on gender-based violence in the Arms Trade Treaty, and the declaration on women's economic empowerment for peacebuilding by the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC/7/OC/3). UN-Women contributed significantly to these outcomes through preparation of mandated reports, substantive inputs and provision of technical expertise. Improvements in tracking progress in implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) through indicators have advanced policy analysis and strengthened coordination amongst the UN entities through the Strategic Results Framework on women, peace and security. UN-Women's catalytic role in promoting implementation of the women, peace and security agenda through the provision of technical expertise and programming was recognized through a fourteen times increase of Peacebuilding Fund allocations to UN-Women from $500,000 in 2010 to 7 million in 2013.

(c) Strengthened commitment by countries to eliminate discrimination against women and girls and empower women, in line with internationally and regionally agreed United Nations commitments on gender equality

434. UN-Women continued to support national partners in prioritizing the strengthening of systemic and institutional capacity in order to ensure gender responsiveness in budgets, national plans and to further build the evidence base for gender equality. National planning documents in 28 countries incorporated priorities and budgets on gender equality and women's empowerment; and 20 countries had systems in place to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment. UN-Women's support to finance and planning ministries, national women's machineries and local governments continued to focus on improving capacity to collect and analyse data, conduct gender-responsive budget analysis and advocacy, and promote inclusiveness of women's participation in planning processes.

(d) Improved capacity of national mechanisms for gender equality, service delivery institutions and advocacy organizations to more effectively advance gender equality and women's empowerment and to protect women's human rights

435. UN-Women continued to work in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders, at different levels, to help accelerate progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment. Capacity development is a cornerstone of its strategy in response to demand for support at the national, community and institutional levels, and UN-Women followed a capacity development framework consistent with UNDG, which visualizes capacity development in terms of individual competencies, collective capabilities and system capacity. UN-Women's initiatives supported partners and constituencies, including government ministries of finance and planning, national women's machineries and other government institutions, civil society organizations, and grassroots women's groups through training; the provision of technical expertise and financial support in development and dissemination of knowledge and learning; mobilizing of networks and advocating

for the inclusion of women's voices; and South-South cooperation, in accordance with the *Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review*.

(e) Enhanced capacity of UN-Women to mobilize and manage multi-donor funding arrangements that respond to demands from programme countries

436. UN-Women managed two multi-donor initiatives, the Fund for Gender Equality and the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. Since its launch in 2009, the Fund for Gender Equality has delivered grants of $56.5 million to 96 grantee partners in 72 countries. Grants ranged from $100,000 to $3 million, with duration of one to four years. By 2013, the Fund for Gender Equality grantee programmes reportedly reached 8.8 million beneficiaries and indirectly benefited nearly 10 times that number. In 2013, the Trust Fund to End Violence against Women completed its seventeenth grant-making cycle, awarding $8 million in grants to 17 initiatives in 18 countries and territories. First-time grant recipients included organizations from Antigua and Barbuda, Mauritania, Myanmar and Kosovo. These new grants are expected to reach 2.3 million beneficiaries between 2014 and 2017. To date, the Trust Fund has supported 368 initiatives in 132 countries and territories, delivering a total of $95 million in grants.

(f) Enhanced capacity of UN-Women to lead and coordinate United Nations system support to Member States at country level to implement commitments to gender equality and to undertake gender mainstreaming

437. UN-Women strengthened the way the United Nations system holds itself accountable for gender mainstreaming. Where UN-Women had a full country presence, it took on a leadership role in coordinating the United Nations system support, for example by chairing or co-chairing gender theme groups. UN-Women worked closely with and enjoyed strong and valued support from United Nations country teams and resident coordinators, participating in joint programmes. UN-Women also helped to revitalize gender mainstreaming in various areas, for example in evaluation through its participation in the United Nations Evaluation Group and its contribution to the development of guidance for agencies of the United Nations system on how to integrate human rights and gender equality dimensions throughout the evaluation process.

Section 18
Economic and social development in Africa

Highlights of programme results

During the biennium, the Economic Commission for Africa was successful in achieving its objectives by conducting and supporting quality research, servicing high-level conferences and delivering capacity-building and other activities. The *Economic Report on Africa* and the report entitled *Assessing Progress in Africa toward the Millennium Development Goals* contributed to improving the design, implementation and monitoring of economic and social policies of member States. The report entitled *Assessing Regional Integration in Africa* led to the decision to create a pan-African free trade area by an indicative year of 2017. Moreover, the Commission convened the Africa

regional implementation meeting, which adopted an outcome document containing Africa's position and concrete proposals for the implementation of the main outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

The forty-fifth and forty-sixth annual sessions of the Commission emphasized the themes of "Unleashing Africa's potential as a pole of global growth" and "Making the most of Africa's commodities: industrializing for growth, jobs and economic transformation", respectively. The forty-sixth session concluded with a unanimous call to pursue commodity-based industrialization as an impetus to Africa's aspirations for structural transformation. The eighth African Development Forum outlined actions and commitments that will see Africa gain more from its land, mineral, forestry and fishery resources.

Challenges and lessons learned

The Commission's collaboration with partners in the area of social development raised the visibility of its policy work and provided opportunities to undertake joint analytical projects. Effective interactions to improve outreach to member States on social development issues are still needed. The restructuring provided an opportunity to sharpen the work of subprogrammes to better deliver on social development priorities in the region. Recurrent challenges include limited data and limited capacity at the national level to fully implement members' development plans. More attention is needed to finding innovative ways of ensuring the impact of deliverables in the long run. In this regard, strengthening of the African Centre for Statistics and increased collaboration with the Centre will help in meeting data-related challenges. Other lessons learned include the importance of aligning work programmes to ensure synergies and of rethinking the capacity-building strategies used the Commission. Activities related to capacity-building have often been one-time events with limited follow-up and have rarely take into account member States' limitations in the context of the evolving technological discourse.

Output implementation rate

438. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 97 per cent of 517 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

439. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 18)).

Executive direction and management

(a) Programme of work is effectively managed

440. The work of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) during the reporting period addressed the major development challenges faced by African countries,

including those relating to the role of the State in economic transformation; climate change and sustainable development; governance and public administration; activities in member States; information, science and technology for development; trade and regional integration; gender and women in development; subregional activities for development; and statistics. Other areas of focus included strengthening United Nations support to the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). At its 2012 and 2013 annual sessions, the Commission was commended by member States for its work in support of Africa's development agenda and, in particular, for promoting sound management of Africa's immense natural resources and helping to bring a planning framework back to national development planning on the continent.

(b) Increased timeliness of submission of documentation

441. ECA was commended during the annual sessions of the Commission for having improved its conference documentation. The improvement was due to a well-functioning steering committee that provided overall guidance for the preparatory process and oversaw the work of the technical committees responsible for the publication plans.

(c) Identification of emerging issues that require attention by member States

442. The forty-fifth session of the Commission adopted a series of measures that recognizes the opportunities, potentialities and challenges for Africa to become a pole of global growth and calls for the promotion and implementation of a holistic, coordinated and integrated policy approach to unleash balanced and sustainable growth and the development potential of African countries. The forty-sixth annual session was organized around the theme of "Industrialization for an emerging Africa". The ministers considered industrialization to be crucial to the capacity of African countries to reap the full benefits of growth, especially in the current global economic context and in view of the continent's own need for structural transformation. The ministerial meeting concluded that industrialization had become imperative for Africa's development and that its concerted pursuit could not be postponed any longer.

(d) Enhanced policy coherence in the management of the economic and social activities of the United Nations

443. The Commission's work enhanced the coherence and coordination of United Nations agencies and organizations in support of the implementation of the African Union's NEPAD programmes at the regional level. Notably, the nine clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa were better coordinated and each prepared demand-driven business plans, shared information and mainstreamed cross-cutting issues. As a result, over 14 joint programmes were implemented by United Nations agencies. That success was achieved largely through the preparation of efficient and effective programming guidelines and the provision of extensive cluster training. In addition, ECA conducted a comprehensive diagnosis of the capacity-building needs of the Commission of the African Union which brought greater focus to United Nations support of that Commission.

(e) Mobilization and promotion of public information on the role of ECA in the African region

444. As an important part of its communication and dissemination strategy, ECA revamped its website with more substantive content and a new, more user-friendly look. The website, which is now available in both French and English, helped the Commission to reach its target audience of policymakers, ministers and civil society groups during the biennium. In addition, press releases, web stories and ECA outputs (publications, reports, etc.) were made available worldwide on the website and were widely disseminated electronically by means of archival compact disks and flash drives.

(f) Build new, and strengthen existing, partnerships and broaden the extrabudgetary resource base of ECA

445. During the reporting period, ECA made considerable progress in building new and strengthening existing partnerships with development partners as a key approach to advancing the African development agenda. The Governments of Canada and Australia agreed to support the establishment of the African Minerals Development Centre and provided approximately $15 million and $5 million, respectively. Negotiations are at advanced stage with other potential donors to support the Centre. In addition, ECA has effectively engaged new donors and partners such as the United States, Brazil and Ireland, who intend to join the joint financing arrangement in support of the Commission's 2013-2015 business plan. The Commission received a total of $48.6 million in extrabudgetary funding during the biennium 2012-2013, compared to $43.6 million received in 2010-2011. The main contributors were Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic analysis, finance and economic development

(a) Improved design, implementation and monitoring of sound macroeconomic and sectoral policies consistent with the priorities of NEPAD and the Millennium Development Goals, by member States

446. Several publications, including the 2012 and 2013 issues of the *Economic Report on Africa* and the Millennium Development Goals report, *Assessing Progress in Africa toward the Millennium Development Goals*, were produced, launched and widely disseminated to improve the design, implementation and monitoring of economic and social policies of member States. Ministers viewed the themes of "Unleashing Africa's potential as a pole of global growth" and "Making the most of Africa's commodities: Industrializing for growth, jobs and economic transformation" featured in the *Economic Report on Africa* in 2012 and 2013, respectively, as timely and pertinent, and used the reports as platforms to advocate for improved governance, institutional, economic and social policy to encourage domestic structural transformation in the region. In addition, ECA provided research and technical assistance to enhance the capacity of member States, particularly in the areas of medium- and long-term development planning.

(b) Increased capacity of member States to mobilize domestic and external resources for development

447. The Commission conducted research in highly specialized areas and provided technical support to enable member States to address key challenges in mobilizing of domestic and external resources for development. For example, high-level research was completed on identifying financing solutions for small and medium-scale industries in Africa, both of which are integral to encouraging growth and development. Member States also received support at regional and international forums in considering and addressing development challenges faced by the region in an increasingly globalized environment. A presentation on money laundering and its implications for Africa was made at the nineteenth African Partnership Forum in Benin, which provided an opportunity for member States to improve their knowledge of the negative impact of money laundering on social and economic development in Africa. The High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa was established to tackle the issue.

(c) Enhanced regional and national capacity to design, implement and monitor economic and social policies and programmes for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, with particular emphasis on the least developed countries

448. ECA worked in collaboration with the Commission of the African Union, the African Development Bank and UNDP to assess progress in attaining the Millennium Development Goals in Africa and to produce, publish and disseminate the report entitled *Assessing Progress in Africa toward the Millennium Development Goals*. The report not only assessed regional progress towards the goals but provided policy direction in respect of financing and of broader institutional and social issues impeding the progress towards the goals, such as weak gender sensitivity in policy development, poor data collection and general social inequality. In addition, the report included a policy brief which succinctly captured the key issues and trends.

Subprogramme 2
Food security and sustainable development

(a) Enhanced capacity and engagement at the national, subregional and regional levels to develop and implement appropriate policies, strategies and programmes for achieving food security and sustainable development

449. The Commission's work on promoting strategic food and agricultural value chains enhanced awareness and knowledge of policymakers and key stakeholders of the potential benefits of the regionalization of the livestock, maize and rice value chains in subregions of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The Commission also continued to provide demand-driven advisory services and to forge partnerships for integrated water resources management and development. In direct support of the sustainable development agenda, the Commission convened the Africa regional preparatory conference for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and provided technical support to the African Group of negotiators in New York and to member States. As a result, the outcome of the Conference largely reflected Africa's priorities.

(b) Improved capacity of member States to mainstream climate change into development policies, strategies and programmes

450. Through the African Climate Policy Centre, ECA provided support to regional, subregional and national entities and systems to improve their capacities to address climate change and development challenges by ensuring widely available climate information, packaging and dissemination; quality analysis for decision support and management practice; and informed decision-making, awareness raising and advocacy. Notable accomplishments during the biennium included implementation of a pilot programme to improve capacities and information on meteorology and hydrology; support for joint management of transboundary groundwater in West Africa; and an assessment of the impact of climate change in selected African countries.

Subprogramme 3
Governance and public administration

(a) Enhanced capacities of African countries to comply with good governance practices, in support of the African Union and its NEPAD and Africa Peer Review Mechanism programmes

451. The Commission's *African Governance Report* monitors progress towards good governance in African countries, showcases good governance practices and promotes policy recommendations for addressing governance deficits. During the biennium, the *African Governance Report III* covered 40 countries and analytical research work from the report was fed into the policy recommendations of the African Governance Forum. ECA significantly enriched and scaled up policy dialogue and reforms on governance in Africa, especially in relation to elections and diversity issues, and charted the way for other institutions to move forward on this issue. For instance, the Government of Seychelles initiated electoral reforms based on the *African Governance Report III* country report, and a serious policy dialogue on reform of the electoral system was launched in Mauritius. Furthermore, the country reports of the *African Governance Report* were at the centre of policy discourse at the session of the African Governance Forum held in Gaborone in October 2012.

(b) Improved capacity of African public institutions to meet obligations of transparency, accountability, efficiency and reliability

452. The Commission's Governance and Public Administration Division continued the implementation of the Regional Anti-Corruption Programme for Africa (2011-2016) through technical support to regional and subregional institutions, production of technical policy papers, peer learning and capacity development. Together with the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption and the Government of Rwanda, ECA organized the International Anti-Corruption Week in Kigali in December 2012, with the first-ever African anti-corruption essay competition for young people. In terms of technical policy research, ECA conducted two major studies: "The private sector and corruption in Africa" and "The media and the challenge of transparency and accountability in the public sphere in Africa". In February 2012, the Commission established a high-level panel on illicit financial flows in Africa at the request of the fourth joint annual meetings of ECA Conference of African Ministers

of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance.

(c) Enhanced engagement of civil society and the private sector in governance environments and democratization of the related processes

453. The Governance and Public Administration Division continued to manage a web portal in support of the African Centre for Civil Society and designed a resource knowledge base and information-sharing portal which collects, organizes, catalogues, presents and disseminates information from diverse sources to civil society organizations. In addition, the Division developed a toolkit to provide its users with a basic understanding of conflict and the capacity to identify, analyse, define and discuss conflict at the different levels at which it occurs. Civil society organizations were mainstreamed into the African Peer Review Mechanism process through the Commission's training workshops both at the national and continental levels, including a second civil society training programme for Central and West African Francophone countries in Abidjan on post-conflict reconstruction. The Division undertook a number of missions to post-conflict countries, during which it provided substantial advisory services to mainstream civil society participation in the policy process. It also provided technical support to the Commission of the African Union for its launch of the African Solidarity Initiative.

Subprogramme 4
Information and science and technology for development

(a) Improved capacity of African countries to formulate, implement and evaluate inclusive and gender-sensitive national and sectoral information, communications, geoinformation and science, technology, and innovation policies and strategies

454. The Science and Technology Division of the Commission provided support to member States in the area of information and communications technology, geoinformation and science, technology and innovation. Eight countries received technical assistance support, three of which subsequently completed activities related to developing and implementing national as well as sectoral information and communications infrastructure, science, technology and innovation and national spatial data infrastructure policies and plans. Specifically, Ethiopia completed the development of a national information technology audit framework as part of its cybersecurity strategy; Ghana completed the review of its national information and communications technology for development strategy and developed a geographic urban service infrastructure; Rwanda established the Rwanda Science, Technology and Innovation Endowment Fund; and Zimbabwe completed the review of its national information and communications technology policy and plan.

(b) Enhanced capacity of member States to nurture and harness information and communications technology, geoinformation, science, technology and innovation for development applications at the national, subregional and regional levels

455. The Science and Technology Division provided support that enabled member States to harness science engineering technologies to improve their health-care outcomes. As a result, a biomedical engineering curriculum was developed for use

by nine universities in Ethiopia (two), Kenya (three), Malawi (one), Uganda (two) and Zambia (one). In addition, Uganda and Zambia launched medical device innovation research projects to improve the efficiency of their health-care delivery. To expand the pilot, the African Biomedical Engineering Consortium was launched in 2013. The Consortium will coordinate and promote standards and quality of programmes and facilitate training of trainers and expansion of the initiative. ECA has also helped member States to harness their intellectual assets, organize collaborations in science, technology and innovation and exchange staff as part of the pilot African Technology Development and Transfer Network.

Subprogramme 5
Trade, economic cooperation and regional integration

(a) Increased harmonization and implementation of policies and programmes in the areas of trade and market integration, physical integration, and free movement of people and goods between and across regional economic communities

456. At its nineteenth summit in July 2012, the African Union decided to create a pan-African free trade area by an indicative year of 2017. That arrangement is considered a crucial building block for the creation of the African Economic Community as embodied in the Abuja Treaty. The Union also agreed on an action plan for boosting intra-African trade that includes programmes to harmonize trading policies and arrangements among the African regional economic communities, joint implementation of interregional infrastructure programmes, and establishment of one-border posts to facilitate the free movement of people, goods and services. In addition, an intergovernmental agreement on the Trans-African Highways was formulated, incorporating standards related to technical specification of roads, road safety and environmental impact assessment. The Commission's support of the Commission of the African Union also enabled the drafting of an African road safety charter that is envisaged to speed up implementation of the African road safety action plan (2011-2020) developed in the context of the United Nations Road Safety Decade.

(b) Enhanced capacity for harmonization and convergence of policies and programmes in the areas of monetary and financial integration across the regional economic communities

457. During the biennium, the Commission conducted a regional workshop on best practices and experiences in policy convergence and establishment of single currencies within regional economic communities. The workshop brought together experts from ministries of finance and central banks of African member States, regional economic communities and regional financial institutions, including the Central Bank of West African States, the Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa, the West African Monetary Institute, the COMESA Monetary Institute, PTA Bank and the European Central Bank. As a result, participants in the Africa Knowledge for Development Networks formed a community of practice with the purpose of sharing and disseminating information. An overwhelming majority of participants (96 per cent) rated the workshop as having met its goal of generating meaningful, relevant and timely discussions on policy convergence and single currencies.

(c) Enhanced capacity of member States to mainstream and integrate trade policies in national and regional development strategies that lead to effective participation in bilateral, regional and multilateral trade and trade negotiations

458. The Commission, together with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), organized an expert group meeting on metrology, export diversification and intra-industry trade in Africa, which was attended by experts from academia, research institutes, regional economic communities, international organizations, including the Commission of the African Union, and regional, continental and international trade and metrology institutions. The expert group meeting was used as a platform to perform a peer review of an ECA non-recurrent publication entitled "Export diversification and intra-industry trade in Africa" and was complemented by a workshop on export diversification and trade facilitation for boosting intra-African trade. Partner organizations such as WTO and OECD, together with the African group of negotiators from Geneva, helped formulate recommendations for integrating policies favouring export diversification and trade facilitation into national and regional development strategies for enhancing intraregional trade.

Subprogramme 6
Gender and women in development

(a) Enhanced capacity of member States to integrate gender and social dimensions in development processes and policies

459. The Commission made significant progress in disseminating information and designing tools to enhance the capacity of member States to integrate gender concerns into policies and programmes. It provided technical advice to the Commission for Gender Equality, the Statistics Department and the Ministry of Women in South Africa on the use of the African Gender and Development Index. Additionally, senior and mid-level policymakers in the Government of Botswana were provided with technical assistance to build and strengthen their understanding of integrating gender into public finance. Also noteworthy was the Commission's work on gender statistics, in particular a comprehensive assessment of the capacity of selected countries, including Cameroon, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Tunisia and Zambia, to collect, analyse and report on gender statistics and sex-disaggregated data at the country level.

(b) Enhanced capacity of member States and intergovernmental bodies to mainstream gender and human rights concerns into policies and programmes developed

460. Representatives of gender ministries from 22 countries attended a capacity development workshop in July 2012, which aimed to analyse the major existing challenges and to propose solutions relating to gaps in data availability. Eighty-five per cent of the participants rated as high the relevance and quality of the workshop content. At the workshop, the countries developed context-specific annual action plans to ensure successful implementation at the national level of the African Women's Rights Observatory and the electronic network for national gender equality machineries and mechanisms in Africa (see www1.uneca.org/ngm). In addition, through both the information portal of the electronic network and the

electronic discussion forum, 15 member States shared good practices and developments in their respective countries, which will provide a platform of learning for others. The Commission also successfully completed an empirical study aimed at addressing women's human rights, specifically violence against women in informal cross-border trade.

Subprogramme 7
Subregional activities for development

(a) Component 1: subregional activities in North Africa

(a) Enhanced capacity of member States, the Arab Maghreb Union and other intergovernmental organizations to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programmes to address key subregional integration priorities in North Africa

461. The subregional office for North Africa contributed to enhancing the capacities of member States and the Arab Maghreb Union in the areas of economic and social transformation, youth employment, green economy, food security, financial integration, energy transition and gender. While strengthening countries' commitment to the principles and priority issues of sustainable development, the work of the office has contributed to building consensus and reaching concrete positions and recommendations for promoting effective integration. Specifically, to better address the structural factors that are key impediments for the structural transformation of North African economies, member States adopted innovative recommendations to be further implemented at national and regional levels with their partners, including the ECA subregional office for North Africa. In the field of sustainable development, the work of the office contributed to preparing member States, technical stakeholders and the Arab Maghreb Union for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

(b) Strengthened capacity of the Arab Maghreb Union to implement multi-year programmes through improved partnerships with key stakeholders, including other intergovernmental organizations, United Nations system agencies, the African Development Bank and the NEPAD secretariat

462. As a result of the Commission's efforts, the partnership with the Arab Maghreb Union improved significantly during the biennium, as did the partnership between the Union and regional institutions. Many joint activities were organized in the context of the multi-year programme 2010-2012, including, inter alia, a workshop on the harmonization of cyberlegislation in North Africa, an expert group meeting on financial integration and regional governance in North Africa, an expert group meeting on the situation of social protection in North Africa in light of the current demographic issues and an expert group meeting on the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. The office also facilitated the participation of the Arab Maghreb Union in key events organized at ECA headquarters on food security and sustainable development and on managing and mobilizing natural resources for African development.

(c) Strengthened information and knowledge networking with key stakeholders involved in subregional development activities, including Governments, the private sector, civil society, the Arab Maghreb Union and United Nations agencies

463. The office strengthened its network of academics, researchers and institutions working on international trade, growth and regional integration, sustainable development and gender. A special session on West Africa was organized by WTO in 2012 with a view to increasing exchanges between North Africa and other parts of Africa. Four new networks were established as part of the office's knowledge platform: (1) the 2063 perspective for North Africa; (2) the promotion of renewable energy in North Africa; (3) social protection; and (4) financial integration in North Africa. The platforms serve as tools to disseminate a number of reports and knowledge material produced by the office.

(b) Component 2: subregional activities in West Africa

(a) Enhanced capacity of member States, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the West African Economic and Monetary Union, the Mano River Union and other intergovernmental and civil society organizations to formulate and implement macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programmes including gender mainstreaming

464. The subregional office for West Africa organized two sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts and four ad hoc expert group meetings aimed at strengthening the capacity of member States, ECOWAS, the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and other intergovernmental organizations in West Africa. These activities were informed by the Commission's policy analysis and advocacy work, which also served as a basis for knowledge generation, information sharing, harmonization and coordination of development policies and regional integration programmes in West Africa. Through its analytical research work, the office engaged member States, ECOWAS, WAEMU, the Mano River Union and other intergovernmental organizations on policy advocacy and programme harmonization and contributed to enhancing the capacity of these development partners. The annual flagship economic reports and the expert group capacity-building initiatives provided policymakers with important tools, information and additional knowledge on emerging development issues in the subregion.

(b) Improved networking among key stakeholders involved in the development agenda, including member States, intergovernmental organizations, regional economic communities, civil society organizations, United Nations country teams and other subregional entities

465. The office continued to strengthen the network among member countries, the regional economic communities, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. Several consultations were undertaken with regional economic communities, including WAEMU and ECOWAS, towards the final signature of the protocol on cooperation by all intergovernmental organizations in West Africa, which constitutes a historical milestone towards the realization of the regional integration agenda and serves as a reference for other regions on the continent. The subregional coordination mechanism brought United Nations agencies, regional economic communities and intergovernmental organizations together to harmonize

their activities in line with the common regional strategies adopted by ECOWAS and WAEMU. Another important milestone was the earlier organization of the West African intergovernmental organizations' platform and the development of a strategy to strengthen those organizations' collaboration and coordination for effective delivery of regional integration programmes.

(c) Strengthened capacity of regional economic communities and member States to formulate and implement policies related to conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction

466. In response to research predicting that youth unemployment is a "time bomb" that will lead to conflict and destabilization in African countries, the office participated in a subregional sensitization and capacity-building initiative to address youth unemployment in collaboration with a youth development institution. The consultative dialogue of experts and other stakeholders held in Ghana aimed at developing a strategic policy framework for addressing youth unemployment in West Africa. It emphasized the importance of the private sector, entrepreneurship, information and communications technology and innovation development in for any strategy. The meeting adopted the "Accra Declaration" on the implementation of a strategic policy framework for youth employment in West Africa.

(c) Component 3: subregional activities in Central Africa

(a) Enhanced capacity of member States and the respective regional economic communities, namely, the Economic Community of Central African States and the Central African Economic and Monetary Community, and other intergovernmental organizations, to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies and to address key emerging subregional integration priorities in Central Africa

467. The ECA subregional office for Central Africa organized two sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts and four ad hoc expert group meetings during the biennium and provided technical assistance and advisory services to the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). The 2013 edition of *Les économies de l'Afrique Centrale*, which addressed opportunities and challenges of the green economy in Central Africa, led to plans for a centre of excellence for green economy sponsored by the World Bank to be established at the University of Dchang in Cameroon. In addition, the subregional office conducted an institutional audit of the International Commission for the Congo-Oubangui-Sangha Basin and a study on the statistical information system for the livestock, meat and fish trade for the Economic Commission for Livestock, Meat and Fish Resources, which served as a basis for their organizational and programmatic reforms.

(b) Strengthened capacity of the Central African regional economic communities and their specialized institutions to operationalize their compensation and development community funds for the implementation of integration projects

468. Building on its work since 2008 through studies, reports and workshops on self-financing mechanisms in central Africa, the subregional office continued its advocacy role for the operationalization of compensation and community development funds for the implementation of integration projects. The office organized a regional integration day in 2012 with the theme: of subregional trade

and infrastructure development in Central Africa, where it presented an update on the financing of regional integration programmes and called for further action. The office also participated in, and provided inputs into, various events organized on infrastructure financing in the context of the infrastructure development plan in Central Africa.

(c) Strengthened capacity of regional economic communities and member States to formulate policies related to post-conflict recovery

469. During the biennium, the Commission's regional adviser on post-conflict issues provided advisory services to the regional economic communities and member States. A workshop was organized to strengthen the capacities of security stakeholders in the subregion to formulate appropriate policies for conflict resolution. Moreover, a forum on fighting against corruption in post-conflict situations and a field project on the implementation of the post-conflict regional programme in the ECCAS zone contributed to strengthening the capacities of regional economic communities and member States to formulate policies related to post-conflict recovery.

(d) Component 4: subregional activities in East Africa

(a) Enhanced capacity of the member States, the regional economic communities and the intergovernmental organizations in the formulation and implementation of macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programmes, and to domesticate and mainstream regional integration processes, instruments and decisions into national policy, legal and regulatory frameworks

470. The office focused its activities in support of policy formulation and advocacy on regional integration, as exemplified by the sixteenth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts, which was organized on the theme of harnessing the potential of the African Peer Review Mechanism to advance mineral resources governance in Africa. The meeting was attended by more than 150 participants, including policy and decision makers from member States and representatives of regional economic communities, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society organizations, as well as consultants and experts from United Nations agencies. The event proved to be a key forum for building consensus and agreeing on common positions on key issues of concern to the subregion. Two parallel ad hoc expert group meetings on natural resources and conflict management in the Great Lakes region and the common currency in the East African Community contributed to enhancing understanding of the context of regional integration in Eastern Africa.

(b) Enhanced platforms for advocacy and knowledge sharing, experiences and practices, building consensus and a common Eastern Africa voice and position regarding development agenda and subregional priorities

471. The subregional office organized expert group meetings on natural resources and conflict management and a common currency for East Africa. Participants in the former meeting were provided with a snapshot of the diversity and causes of land-related conflicts in eastern Africa as well as lessons learned and best practices in terms of policy and legal responses for conflict prevention and resolution. Experts at the latter meeting from the East African central banks and other relevant

stakeholders acquired new knowledge and left better equipped to share the knowledge gained and implement adopted recommendations.

(c) Increased capacity of the regional economic communities and other intergovernmental organizations, namely, the East African Community, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Economic Community of the Great Lakes States, the Indian Ocean Commission and the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region through improved partnerships to deepen regional integration in East Africa

472. The subregional office provided effective leadership in the formulation of the 2013-2017 business plan for the subregional coordination mechanism for Eastern and Southern Africa, which was adopted in November 2012 during the thirteenth session of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa. The subregional offices for East Africa and Southern Africa engaged United Nations agencies and rallied their support for the African Union, NEPAD, the regional economic communities and intergovernmental organizations in both subregions.

(e) Component 5: subregional activities in Southern Africa

(a) Enhanced capacity of member States, SADC and other intergovernmental organizations to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programmes to address key subregional integration priorities in Southern Africa; and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

473. The subregional office for Southern Africa conducted several important studies during the biennium. One study, entitled "Harnessing natural resources for sustainable development in Southern Africa: Opportunities and challenges in the tourism sector", stimulated discussion on the importance and potential of tourism, observing that Southern Africa has enormous tourism potential characterized by a globally unsurpassed tourism resource base that encompasses multiple cultures, wildlife, favourable weather patterns and transboundary parks. Another study, on climate change and the rural economy in Southern Africa, deepened the debate on strengthening climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies to build awareness of the impact of the global warming phenomenon on the rural economy of Southern Africa. The office also convened an expert group meeting that reviewed a report on policy harmonization in addressing gender-based violence and securing the human rights of women in Southern Africa.

(b) Strengthened capacity of SADC to implement multi-year programmes and COMESA, EAC and SADC the agreed-upon tripartite programme through improved partnerships with key stakeholders, including other intergovernmental organizations, United Nations agencies, the African Development Bank, the African Union and the NEPAD secretariat

474. The subregional office supported the eighteenth and nineteenth Intergovernmental Committee of Experts meetings, where three parliamentary reports submitted by the subregional office for Southern Africa on the implementation status of the multi-year programme of collaboration with SADC were adopted. The office also produced several technical publications, including one on promoting commodity market exchanges in the SADC region, which contributed

to strengthening the development of capital markets, particularly commodity futures markets, in the SADC region. Another publication, entitled "Industrialization for economic transformation and sustainable development in Southern Africa: Addressing the gaps", outlined the state of industrialization in Southern Africa and identified key constraints and recommendations to address them. In addition, the office conducted a training seminar for professionals from COMESA and its specialized institutions on results-based management, aimed at enhancing their capacity to plan and promote results-oriented programming and improve performance in their development programmes.

(c) Strengthened information and knowledge networking with key stakeholders involved in subregional development activities, including Governments, SADC, the private sector, civil society and United Nations agencies

475. The subregional office provided several platforms to strengthen information sharing and knowledge networking with and among key stakeholders in the subregion. Sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts in 2012 and 2013 provided a forum for information sharing and knowledge networking among member States, regional economic communities, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and other key stakeholders involved in subregional development activities. The office also provided and maintained the virtual knowledge networks and workspaces in communities of practice on such topics as macroeconomic analysis and institutional convergence, food security and sustainable development and macroeconomic analysis and regional integration. In addition, the office created and maintained an observatory space on regional integration on the "Teamworks" platform as another forum to strengthen information sharing and knowledge networking among stakeholders.

Subprogramme 8
Development planning and administration

(a) Enhanced capacity of ECA member States to share experiences and adopt new approaches and address emerging issues regarding macroeconomic policy and analysis

476. During the biennium, a total of 410 senior and mid-career government officials benefited from various training programmes and 660 officials benefited from tailor-made courses delivered with the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in Rwanda and Zimbabwe under the Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative. In addition, the subregional office, UNDP and ECA organized an advanced seminar on gender-sensitive macroeconomic policy management, which was attended by representatives of ECCAS, the Central African Economic and Monetary Community, WAEMU, COMESA, ECOWAS, the East African Governmental Development Organization, NEPAD, SADC and the Commission of the African Union.

(b) Strengthened capacity and sharing of best practices and experiences among member States to adopt development planning (including local area development) policies and approaches

477. As a growing number of African countries stepped up their efforts to reinstate and rebuild their development planning policies, processes and institutional

arrangements, the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning was called upon to play a role in the design of new plans, the assessment of gaps in planning capacities, the provision of capacity renewal and/or updating in contemporary development planning and the organization of interministerial dialogues on planning. No fewer than 25 countries benefited directly from the Institute's services and interventions in this regard. These countries, distributed over the five subregions of the African continent, were able to: (a) design new national planning institutional architectures; (b) adopt new approaches, dimensions and instruments of development planning; (c) launch new initiatives in interministerial planning and policy coordination; (d) carry out new programmes of decentralized/local planning; and (e) update the skills and knowledge of their officials.

Subprogramme 9
Statistics

(a) Enhanced capacity of member States to produce and use economic, demographic, social and environmental statistics, including gender-disaggregated and gender-responsive statistics in support of regional integration and the Millennium Development Goals

478. By the end of the biennium, at least 31 countries were implementing a national strategy for the development of statistics, while 16 other countries were still in the process of designing the strategy or awaiting its adoption by Government. A review of implementation in the 31 countries demonstrated that the national strategy for the development of statistics is an important tool for raising the profile of statistics, mobilizing fund for statistical operations and mainstreaming statistics in the poverty reduction strategy papers. Some countries made progress concerning autonomy of statistical offices to ensure the credibility of data released, while others improved statistical coordination or established national training centres.

(b) Enhanced national capacities to produce harmonized and comparable statistical data in support of regional integration, macroeconomic convergence programs, common currency and better economic management in regional economic communities

479. During the biennium, an increasing number of countries compiled their economic accounts in compliance with the 2008 system of national accounts, a methodology for rebasing national accounts. Following an intensive workshop and advocacy efforts by ECA, and with support from the World Bank, the United Kingdom and the European Union, several more countries committed themselves to implementing the 2008 system of national accounts.

Subprogramme 10
Social development

(a) Enhanced capacity of member States to integrate gender and social dimensions in development processes and policies

480. Through the Commission's support for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (A/CONF.171/13/Rev.1, chap. I, resolution 1, annex), considerable progress was made by member States. The 20-year regional review of the implementation of the

Programme of Action revealed that all 52 countries had implemented national policies, programmes and strategies explicitly addressing the interaction between population and sustainable development. Another regional review process, relating to the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 (A/CONF.197/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II), provided an opportunity to strengthen national and regional capacities of policymakers from Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Swaziland, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania in the implementation of the Plan of Action in their countries.

(b) Strengthened capacity of member States and intergovernmental bodies to analyse, develop policies and support interventions to achieve social integration

481. The Commission continued to engage in knowledge generation and policy research on youth, international migration, population, social protection and a new initiative on the cost of hunger in Africa. It initiated five country case studies on the creative economy as a development pathway for youth employment. The main recommendation emanating from the related report was for ECA to establish a creative economy initiative in Africa which would help countries collect data and share experiences that could be used for informed policy and decision-making. The Commission also drafted a global system-wide action plan on youth and committed itself to enhancing national capacities to develop gender-sensitive strategies and comprehensive evidence-based employment and livelihood programmes targeting disadvantaged youth.

482. Following the pre-forum events on youth of the African Development Forum and African Governance Forum, the recommendations on mainstreaming gender and youth issues in the natural resources development and governance processes were adopted by member States and were used to guide the Commission's work, including the establishment of the African Minerals Development Centre.

Section 19
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

Highlights of programme results

To address persistent and emerging challenges, ESCAP promoted regional policy consensus and cooperation for the balanced integration of the three pillars of sustainable development, facilitated the inclusion of regional perspectives in the global post-2015 development agenda and improved United Nations coherence for implementing outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. To ensure that all Members, including least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries and fragile States, benefit from economic integration, ESCAP provided policy options and analyses and shared knowledge, including through enhanced resilience to economic crises as well as natural disasters. Members set regional norms and adopted frameworks on key social issues, including the rights of persons with disabilities, population and international migration, while addressing gender dimensions. Regional cooperation fostered corporate social responsibility and technology transfer for trade, investment and enterprise development, as well as international road transport. Placing statistics at the centre of inclusive and sustainable development programmes to develop capacities and modernize statistical services deepened cooperation among national statistical systems. To strengthen subregional engagement, ESCAP provided technical assistance in addressing issues ranging from the green economy in the Pacific and the transboundary environment in East and North-East Asia to water and energy resource management in North and Central Asia and connectivity for economic integration in South and South-West Asia.

Challenges and lessons learned

If they are to be fully effective, mechanisms for regional economic integration, regional policy coordination and multisectoral approaches to addressing complex challenges across national boundaries need to be further strengthened. Despite the commitments made to attaining internationally agreed development goals, weaknesses in institutional frameworks and varying levels of development as well as the limited financial and human resources of member States affected the design and implementation of policies. Desired outcomes may remain difficult to attain if sufficient consideration is not given to environmental, social and economic sustainability and the removal of institutional and regulatory hurdles.

Output implementation rate

483. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 99 per cent of 477 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

484. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 19)).

Executive direction and management

(a) Programme of work is effectively managed

485. At the end of the biennium, 99 per cent of mandated, quantifiable outputs had been delivered and 99.29 per cent of the initial appropriation of the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 had been utilized.

(b) Identification of emerging issues that require attention by member States

486. The sixty-eighth session of ESCAP was a game changer because the region came together and spoke in general agreement about how to address challenges related to trade, energy, connectivity and Pacific small island developing States through its resolutions on that subject. The sixty-ninth session was the culmination of combined efforts to change ESCAP into the most inclusive intergovernmental platform for decision-making in Asia and the Pacific in order to respond effectively to the great transformations facing the region. In the evaluation questionnaires administered for the sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the Commission, member States praised the timeliness and quality of documentation. The adoption of Commission resolution 69/1 was also significant, in that it provided a road map for further improving the efficiency and effectiveness of Commission sessions and of the conference structure as a whole.

(c) Enhanced policy coherence in the management of the economic and social activities of the United Nations

487. The Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism improved coordination and coherence across the United Nations system. Its meetings, including one held during the sixty-ninth session of the Commission and chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, were focused on the post-2015 development agenda and the comprehensive partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations. Meetings on the comprehensive partnership provided inputs into reviews of the partnership framework and priorities for future cooperation. With regard to the post-2015 development agenda, initiatives included the publication of the *Asia-Pacific Regional MDGs Report 2012/13*, prepared jointly by ESCAP, the Asian Development Bank and UNDP, which was focused on post-2015 priorities, and a joint agency report entitled "Towards a green economy for sustainable development and poverty reduction: an Asia-Pacific perspective", which included a road map for Millennium Development Goal 1 on poverty and hunger, and promoted the Zero Hunger Challenge in Asia and the Pacific.

(d) Increased exposure of the analytical, normative and capacity-building work of ESCAP and increased visibility of ESCAP as the most comprehensive regional platform for inclusive and sustainable development

488. During the reporting period, ESCAP continued to play a major role in promoting inclusive and sustainable economic and social development for member States in the region and strengthening their ability to engage with one another and create a regional voice in the face of global challenges. The heightened visibility of the Organization was evidenced by an increasing number of references to ESCAP

activities and policies in key media outlets in Asia and the Pacific. There was a considerable increase in the placement of the Executive Secretary's opinion editorials in news outlets in 2013 especially during the months of April to September, compared with 2012. In 2012, five opinion editorials of the Executive Secretary were placed in 38 news outlets, while in 2013 eight editorials were placed in 70 news outlets.

(c) Increased timeliness of submission of documentation

489. According to the evaluation questionnaire on the sixty-eighth session of the Commission, the views of member States on the quality and timeliness of documentation were generally positive. With regard to the evaluation questionnaire on the sixty-ninth session, 42 per cent of respondents were of the view that pre-session documents had conveyed clear messages concerning the issues included in the agenda; 51 per cent agreed that the posting of documents on the ESCAP website had facilitated the delegation's review. The Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission provided useful and valuable guidance for the work of the secretariat on a regular basis.

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development

(a) Enhanced understanding among policymakers and other target groups of macroeconomic challenges and policy options that promote economic growth, reduce poverty and narrow the development gaps

490. The secretariat's work has generated innovative and timely discussions on emerging economic and social challenges facing the region. During the biennium, nearly 800 references were made in policy documents, the academic literature and mass media to findings contained in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* and its year-end update. The coverage included top-tier media outlets, such as the BBC, Bloomberg, CNN, Financial Times, Reuters, the Wall Street Journal and Xinhua, as well as broad national pick-up in countries across the region. Moreover, during the sessions of the Commission, member States frequently referred to the key findings and messages of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* in their policy statements and round-table discussions.

(b) Enhanced regional voice in global development forums and deepened regional economic and financial cooperation to exploit synergies for mutual benefit towards inclusive and sustainable growth and development

491. Commission resolution 68/10, on enhancing regional economic integration in Asia and the Pacific and adopted in May 2012, provided renewed momentum in that regard; the participants in the ministerial conference organized under the resolution unanimously adopted by acclamation the Bangkok Declaration on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific and recommended further actions. The consultations of the Group of Twenty provided an opportunity to strengthen the regional voice in global forums and ensure that all countries in the region, including the least developed countries, articulate their concerns and priorities. The subregional policy dialogues provided a useful platform for countries to share experiences in overcoming economic crisis, as exemplified by the evaluation survey results, in which participants said that the meetings had provided good inputs into policy

design debate in their countries and had been an effective way to learn what other countries in the region were doing.

(c) Improved capacity of member States, particularly countries with special needs, to design and implement macroeconomic and development policies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals

492. Most of the countries in the region, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, incorporated Millennium Development Goals into their development strategies. The commitment of the least developed countries to implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action led to the adoption of Commission resolution 68/2, on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 in the Asia-Pacific region. Similarly, the commitment of landlocked developing countries to implementing the Almaty Programme of Action was reflected in the adoption of Commission resolution 69/2, on the final review of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in the Asia-Pacific region. Furthermore, the strong interest of countries with special needs in having their views reflected in the ongoing debate on the post-2015 development agenda led to the adoption of Commission resolution 69/3, entitled "Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Bangkok Declaration of the Asia-Pacific Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States on the Development Agenda beyond 2015".

(d) Improved capacity of member States to formulate and implement rural development policies that promote sustainable agriculture and food security

493. Good progress was made towards promoting sustainable agriculture and food security in Member States, through the Network for Knowledge Transfer on Sustainable Agricultural Technologies and Improved Market Linkages in South and Southeast Asia and by building technical and analytical capacity through technical cooperation in the areas of food security and poverty reduction. The Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture continued to receive an increasing number of requests from member countries for additional training courses.

Subprogramme 2
Trade and investment

(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement more effective and coherent policies on trade, investment, and enterprise development

494. During the biennium, the secretariat worked actively to build capacity of ESCAP members and associate members in trade and investment policymaking. In this regard, approximately 1,890 participants were offered capacity-building workshops in areas including the effective negotiation and implementation of preferential and other trade and investment agreements, as well as the implementation of trade facilitation and paperless trade. On average, 90 per cent of participants indicated that they were able to better formulate or implement policies after attending ESCAP meetings. Analytical work and tools, including the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade studies, the *Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report*, the Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements and ESCAP-World Bank International Trade Costs databases, the guides produced by the United Nations

Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific and the updated policy guidebook for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in Asia and the Pacific together provided a solid basis for more effective and evidence-based decision policymaking and implementation.

(b) Strengthened regional cooperation and integration mechanisms in trade and investment

495. Participating States of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement ratified the framework agreements on trade facilitation, investment and trade in services, and the Standing Committee decided to welcome Mongolia as a new participating State. The Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade continued to grow, including the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, as highlighted in an external evaluation. ESCAP resolution 68/3, adopted in May 2012 set the stage for the development of regional arrangements for cross-border paperless trade facilitation. Both the Asia-Pacific Business Forum and the Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum provided an opportunity for public and private stakeholders to exchange good practices and develop recommendations for the enhancement of regional cooperation and integration. The Sustainable Business Network was set up by the ESCAP Business Advisory Council to promote engagement of the business sector in sustainable and inclusive development.

(c) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement policies and strategies for sustainable economic development and rural poverty reduction through agrotechnology transfer and agro-based enterprise development

496. The Asian Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery made substantial headway with the development of a draft workplan and terms of reference following its launch at the regional policymakers round table held in Bangkok on 18 November 2013. With respect to sustainable agricultural mechanization strategies, six key areas were identified for information-gathering to assess the current status of agricultural mechanization. The Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization was held in Qingdao, China, on 26 and 27 October 2013; it facilitated the exchange of information and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned from the implementation of various policy initiatives, and promoted effective public-private partnership in agrobusiness development in the region.

(d) Strengthened capacity to promote national innovative systems and create an enabling environment for technology transfer to address regional and global development challenges

497. Nearly 40 national and regional capacity-building activities were held in partnership with more than 40 government ministries, national institutions and international agencies. Through a project on the promotion of a regional network among research and development institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, the capacity of many targeted researchers and research managers of member countries in the area of nanotechnology increased substantially. Through the project entitled "Network for knowledge transfer on sustainable agricultural technologies and improved market linkages in South and South-east Asia", the subprogramme contributed to improved food security and nutrition for the poorest and most vulnerable people in South and South-east Asia. The project increased and accelerated the rate of the adoption of

sustainable and productivity-enhancing agricultural technologies, thereby improving the regional trade in food products. Normative and analytical work increased technological knowledge through the online periodicals *Asia-Pacific Tech Monitor* and *Value Added Technology Information Service Update*.

Subprogramme 3
Transport

(a) Enhanced knowledge and increased capacity of member States to develop and implement effective and sustainable transport policies and programmes, including those targeting the Millennium Development Goals and road safety

498. During the biennium, the secretariat served as a key regional platform for the promotion of sustainable transport in accordance with the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2012-2016), adopted during the ministerial conference on transport held in 2012. The impact of the secretariat's effort in strengthening the transport planning and policymaking capacities of member States was emphasized through such activities as the introduction of new policies and the development of national action plans. In addition, cooperation between development agencies and member States for the promotion and implementation of sustainable transport was agreed upon at the expert group meeting held in Seoul in November 2013, and meetings organized by the secretariat had successful outcomes in the form of statements and declarations reaffirming a consolidated commitment that laid down a future direction for member States to pursue, in collaboration with the secretariat and other stakeholders, in further developing and implementing transport policies and strategies at the national and regional levels.

(b) Improved capability of member States and international financial institutions to use the Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and other ESCAP-promoted initiatives for planning international intermodal transport linkages

499. The secretariat's work in developing a third intergovernmental agreement culminated in the adoption by the Commission of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports at its sixty-ninth session through its resolution 69/7, entitled "Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports". The Agreement was subsequently signed by 14 countries at the second session of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, held in November 2013, with Thailand being the first party to ratify the Agreement. In the development and upgrading of the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks, significant progress was also noted during the biennium, including the completion of a number of pre-feasibility studies supported by ESCAP for the Asian Highway and selected dry ports. In 2012, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea acceded to the intergovernmental agreements on the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks, and Nepal ratified the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network, bringing the total number of parties to the agreements to 29 and 18, respectively.

(c) Increased capacity among ESCAP member States and the private sector to implement measures to improve the efficiency of international transport operations and logistics

500. Given the need to provide a strategic vision and a common approach with respect to addressing challenges to international road transport in the region, the participants in the Ministerial Conference on Transport adopted the Regional Strategic Framework for the Facilitation of International Road Transport. Notable activities in support of the Regional Strategic Framework included the establishment in 2012 of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation, with more than 80 applications submitted. A series of studies on major subregional agreements was launched in 2013 under the auspices of the Regional Network. To improve the efficiency of international transport by road and railway, four mutually complementary transport facilitation tools were developed. Workshops to assist member States in applying these tools were also organized. In addition, technical and financial assistance was provided, in cooperation with the secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Subprogramme 4
Environment and development

(a) Enhanced understanding and capacity of local and national governments and other stakeholders to develop and implement strategies for integrating environmental sustainability in economic and social development, including the green growth approach and other effective policy initiatives, effective planning and management of natural resources development and gender mainstreaming for poverty reduction and inclusive and sustainable development in urban and rural areas

501. Various activities carried out during the biennium, such as expert group meetings, intergovernmental forums and field projects, enhanced the understanding and capacity of governments and other stakeholders to integrate environmental sustainability into economic and social development; promote integrated water resources management and enhanced energy security, including energy access; and support the development of sustainable urban development policies and actions. This led to 20 policy measures and actions developed and/or implemented in 11 countries in the areas of green growth, integrated water resources management and solid waste management.

(b) Strengthened regional cooperation on the development and implementation of strategies for integrating environmental sustainability in economic and social development, including the application of the green growth approach and other effective policy initiatives, enhancing access to modern energy services for all and energy security, improving water resources management and promoting sustainable urban development

502. In order to assist member States in integrating environmental sustainability into economic and social development, ESCAP produced many outreach materials, including various online training courses, on low-carbon green growth. The development and dissemination of those materials to hundreds of policymakers increased their knowledge about the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development process, the Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth, integrated

water resources management, sustainable urban development, energy security and the sustainable use of energy, and strengthened capacities to implement strategies for the integration of environmental sustainability into economic and social development at both the regional and subregional levels.

(c) Strengthened consensus among ESCAP member States on regional perspectives in strategies for integrating environmental sustainability in economic and social development, including the application of the green growth approach, resource efficiency, efficient management of energy and water resources, eco-city development and other effective policy initiatives

503. Activities to help strengthen strategies for the integration of environmental sustainability into economic and social development continued to be undertaken through the building of consensus on key issues such as the green growth approach, resource efficiency, the efficient management of energy and water resources and eco-city development. New documents adopted on a consensus basis included four ESCAP resolutions, the outcome documents of two meetings of the Committee on Environment and Development, and seven consensus documents relating to the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum process. Also, much work was done to lay the foundation for building consensus and providing member States with the latest research and analysis to support intergovernmental dialogue, including the *State of Asian Cities 2010/11* report and preparations for upcoming meetings such as the regional implementation meeting on the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Asia-Pacific Water Summit.

Subprogramme 5
Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction

(a) Improved capacity of policymakers to develop policies and strategies for applications of information and communications technology and for effective disaster risk reduction, including relevant gender dimensions, for inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development

504. Through the analytical studies, regional workshops and multi-stakeholder policy dialogues organized during the biennium, the subprogramme helped to increase the knowledge of policymakers with respect to developing policies and strategies for information and communications technology applications and managing disasters in the region. Those activities culminated in the third session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, at which more than 85 policymakers and other stakeholders agreed to develop a seamless information and communications space in the region; the adoption of resolution 69/10, on promoting regional information and communications technology connectivity and building knowledge-networked societies in Asia-Pacific, at the sixty-ninth session of the Commission, the endorsement of the Asian information superhighway initiative by experts at two regional consultations; and the recommendation of member States that the role of information and communications technology policymaking be enhanced in order to build a people-centred, inclusive and sustainable information society in Asia and the Pacific.

(b) Increased sharing among policymakers of knowledge on effective strategies and policy options for information and communications technology connectivity and disaster risk reduction, including those related to climate change adaptation

505. Policy options and more effective strategies for member States were considered through interactions among policymakers, sectoral authorities and development partners at ESCAP-organized regional forums. Knowledge products and tools on disaster risk reduction and broader resilience-building were made more easily accessible, shared and exchanged through the use of information technology. In addition, targeted audiences were able to gain access to ESCAP publications and printed knowledge products at major policy and technical events. The intergovernmental meetings and regional workshops contributed to greater dialogue among member States and provided guidance with regard to priorities and needs related to disaster risk reduction. Member States acknowledged that the One United Nations approach, which was being employed in the preparations for and implementation of the third session of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction, reaffirmed the importance of the effective sharing of information with other regional organizations and partners.

(c) Strengthened regional cooperation mechanisms in information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction

506. The Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development was further enhanced with the support of member States. Concerted efforts were made to implement Commission resolutions 69/11 and 68/5, including capacity-building to address the main technical gaps in developing countries in space technology and geographic information system applications for disaster risk reduction; research and policy analysis on the application of emerging technologies; the timely provision of near-real-time satellite imagery to countries affected by severe disasters and development; and the operationalization of the Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Disaster Monitoring and Early Warning, Particularly Drought. The products and services of the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia, established with the support of the ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries, benefited member States, which reaffirmed their commitment at the first ministerial conference of the System.

(d) Improved institutional capacity of ESCAP member States to use information and communications technology for socioeconomic development

507. The Asian and Pacific Training Centre for information and communication technology for development capacity-building programmes in information and communications technology for development (ICTD) have been rolled out in 27 countries in the region and have been institutionalized into long-term capacity-building frameworks in many of them. The Training Centre updated its programme content to reflect the latest information and communications technology developments, including the role of social media in governance and development; rolled out the Primer Series on ICTD for Youth to enhance the coverage of ICTD in university programmes in 11 countries and two subregions; strengthened ICTD teaching capacities through the training of trainers at 88 universities; launched two issues of the new "Knowledge-Sharing Series"; and initiated its communities of practice on ICTD.

Subprogramme 6
Social development

(a) Increased knowledge and awareness of social development and population trends, policies and good practices in the region as a basis for effective decision-making by ESCAP member States

508. The impact of ESCAP analytical work was emphasized during the biennium in the statements of eight member States delivered at intergovernmental meetings, which directly referred to the usefulness of the policy options, strategies and good practices promoted through the Commission's work. Ninety-three per cent of respondents to surveys conducted on satisfaction with the publication *Disability at a Glance: Strengthening the Evidence Base in Asia and the Pacific*, the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, and the Social Protection Toolbox reported that those knowledge products had enhanced their knowledge and awareness of social development and population trends, policies and good practices. In addition, ESCAP produced comprehensive analytical studies to address key regional concerns and priorities in the areas of population, ageing, migration, disability, social protection, HIV/AIDS, youth and gender equality and women's empowerment, enhancing the knowledge and awareness and building the capacity of member States.

(b) Enhanced regional cooperation and implementation of international commitments to promote gender equality and social integration of vulnerable groups in Asia and the Pacific

509. ESCAP served as a key regional platform for engaging governments and stakeholders in assessing progress, identifying gaps and building consensus on the implementation of international and regional commitments pertaining to social development. There were a total of nine resolutions, decisions and recommendations reflecting regional consensus, in particular on population and development, disability, HIV, migration and ageing, which exceeded the performance target. Through the work of ESCAP in the areas of capacity-building, South-South cooperation, the review of regional and international platforms and agreements for action, ESCAP strengthened regional and subregional cooperation. Five initiatives were undertaken to establish regional and subregional frameworks for cooperation to support the successful implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, and the regional framework to support the implementation of international and region-specific commitments at the Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Assessment of Progress against Commitments on HIV/AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals, and to promote women's economic empowerment.

(c) Strengthened capacity of ESCAP member States to manage social risks and vulnerabilities and implement effective social protection and gender mainstreaming programmes, particularly for the most vulnerable groups in society

510. Member States demonstrated enhanced capacity to develop policies and programmes in support of the building of inclusive societies that address key challenges and priorities in the areas of population and development, gender equality and women's empowerment, disability-inclusive development and social

protection, as a result of ESCAP capacity-building activities. In this regard, focused regional road maps and frameworks provided guidance for member States in developing policies and programmes to promote social development. Ninety-seven per cent of government respondents attending ESCAP meetings and events indicated that the knowledge and policy tools provided were relevant to and useful for their roles and work in areas related to population and development, disability, HIV, ageing, migration, social protection and gender equality. At least nine countries carried out follow-up activities to implement policies, strategies and good practices promoted by ESCAP through its capacity development activities.

Subprogramme 7
Statistics

(a) Increased understanding of development trends in the ESCAP region, especially progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, by official statisticians, decision makers and the public

511. During the biennium, ESCAP reporting on efforts to achieve Millennium Development Goals resulted in more informed dialogues on policy priorities for accelerating progress. In particular, ground-breaking analysis of within-country disparities in terms of health-related outcomes and their drivers sparked debates on the need to better target policy interventions and localize supporting statistics. Moreover, the analysis of disparities based on household survey data deepened understanding of factors determining the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and provided impetus for advocacy efforts to ensure more reliable, higher-quality and more timely statistical information.

(b) Increased access by decision makers and the public to comparable data on key demographic, social, economic and environmental indicators for the ESCAP region

512. The importance and relevance of the *Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific* as a key reference was demonstrated through extensive online activity. From 6 November 2012 (the date of the online launch of the 2012 *Yearbook*) to 13 December 2013, the online database generated 51,800 data table views and more than 26,100 data table downloads. The most requested tables from the *Statistical Yearbook* from 1 January to 13 December 2013 concerned real gross domestic product, population size, exports of merchandise, imports of merchandise and populations living in poverty. The relevance and usefulness of individual country profiles — consisting of two A4 pages of selected indicators presented in tables and charts — were demonstrated by high demand, with more than 37,000 downloads from 1 January to December 2013.

(c) Increased capacity of national statistical systems of ESCAP member States to collect, produce, disseminate and use statistics in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices

513. The Committee on Statistics endorsed the implementation plan for the Regional Programme on Economic Statistics, the Regional Strategic Plan for the improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific and the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics. Measures to improve population and social statistics and environmental statistics,

the modernization and coordination of statistical information systems and statistical training were also agreed upon. The South-South cooperation, technical assistance, the sharing of experiences and fundraising were facilitated through a series of steering and advisory groups comprising representatives of member States and development partners. Notable examples were the joint development of the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics, for which $2.7 million was pledged to ensure the implementation of its training component by ESCAP; and the partnership approach leading to the commitment of the Government of Myanmar to pursuing the development of a national statistics development strategy.

(d) Strengthened capacity of national statistical offices in the ESCAP region to collect, produce, disseminate and analyse data in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices

514. Through 45 training courses and workshops, more than 800 government statisticians/officials developed their skills and improved their knowledge in official statistics, including internationally agreed standards, methods and frameworks for statistical activities in related areas. The quality of training and other capacity development initiatives organized by development partners was enhanced through the contribution of ESCAP expertise in the areas of economic statistics and the System of National Accounts; agricultural statistics; Millennium Development Goal indicators; sampling methods; population census methods; and gender, disability and environmental statistics. Through collaboration with the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific in the delivery of training, statistical training institutes and units improved their capacity to provide quality statistical training to their constituencies as well as to other countries through South-South cooperation.

Subprogramme 8
Subregional activities for development

Component 1
Subregional activities for development in the Pacific

(a) Increased capacity of Pacific island governments to formulate and implement inclusive and sustainable development policies and practices

515. At least eight countries started adopting the green economy at the national and sectoral levels in the subregion during the biennium, with the Melanesian countries having their own subregional green growth road map and a new regional organization, the Pacific Islands Development Forum, being established and dedicated to the green economy for sustainable development and to inclusive dialogue. At least nine Pacific island countries were able to review and draft national disability policies, and a Pacific regional disability forum was established to lead the work. As a result of the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting held in July 2013 and the fact that the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States is to be held in 2014, there is the willingness and the ability to consider alternative criteria for development and to establish national and regional mechanisms for accelerated integration and durable partnerships.

(b) Pacific island developing countries are better able to influence Asia-Pacific regional processes

516. Increased numbers and the increased seniority of Pacific delegates at ESCAP meetings led to the adoption on a regular basis of Commission resolutions addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing countries. At the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum held in May 2013, Pacific delegates gained support for a Pacific regional energy data repository in support of the Secretary-General's Sustainable Energy for All initiative. At the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, Pacific delegates played prominent roles in maintaining strong consensus and reflecting the strong progress that was being made in the subregion. At the Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific, held in December 2013, Pacific delegates played key roles in ensuring the adoption of a ministerial declaration and a bold action plan that, inter alia, recognized the need to address vulnerability to climate change as an integral part of regional economic integration.

(c) Strengthened regional cooperation mechanisms and institutional frameworks for the promotion of regional integration and equitable development

517. ESCAP is now established as a key regional coordinator of sustainable development activities including the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, including the high-level political forum, the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States and the post-2015 development agenda. The small island developing States in the Pacific are seen by many as those best prepared leading up to the Conference and have succeeded in keeping the issues of oceans, climate change, social inclusiveness and non-communicable diseases included in the agenda and in outcome documents. Pacific issues are more prominent now in Asia-Pacific meetings as well as ESCAP publications, including the survey and Millennium Development Goals reports. The progress made under policy initiatives emanating from ESCAP has been accompanied by an increased number of requests and invitations to provide briefs, advice and join working groups on various issues, including gender, poverty, diplomatic training and regional/global processes.

Component 2
Subregional activities for development in East and North-East Asia

(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address sustainable development, taking into account the green growth approach and energy efficiency, information and communications technology, disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management, poverty reduction and infrastructure development

518. The Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia continued to promote subregional cooperation and integration during the biennium. The Office implemented activities to strengthen the capacities of member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes on sustainable development, ageing societies, statistical capacity, trade and transport facilitation, eco-labelling, nature conservation, the prevention of dust storms and sandstorms, a carbon

footprint partnership and the prevention of transboundary air and marine pollution. ESCAP also served as the secretariat of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation, an intergovernmental cooperation mechanism comprising six member States in the subregion, and facilitated the seventeenth senior officials meeting of the Programme, at which an action plan for future activities was drawn up.

(b) Strengthened knowledge-sharing and partnerships among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

519. The Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia collaborated with member States and other non-governmental stakeholders on the formulation of a programme of work to address key priority areas in the subregion. In 2012, many activities were organized in collaboration with other stakeholders, ranging from governmental ministries to national institutions and non-governmental organizations, resulting in the launch of the Asia Carbon Footprint Partnership in support of low-carbon development in Asian countries. The North-East Asia Forum on Trade and Transport Facilitation, co-organized with the Greater Tumen Initiative, provided an open forum in which to discuss the current state of trade and transport facilitation in North-East Asia and identify potential areas to enhance cooperation.

Component 3
Subregional activities for development in North and Central Asia

(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address transport and trade facilitation and water, energy and the environment

520. Workshops and training courses organized by the Subregional Office for North and Central Asia on trade and economic relations strengthened the capacities of Afghanistan and other countries in Central Asia to address key issues in the area of economic cooperation and to assess the implementation of regional and bilateral trade. Issues considered included barriers to trade between Afghanistan and Central Asian countries, business community participation in Afghanistan's economic development, employment generation and investment. The subregional meeting entitled "Strengthening cooperation for disaster risk reduction in North and Central Asia", which brought together hydrometeorological specialists, contributed to the raising of awareness and the sharing of knowledge and information in the subregion.

(b) Strengthened knowledge-sharing and partnerships among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

521. ESCAP, in cooperation with ECE, organized the 2012 economic forum of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) entitled "Strengthening regional economic cooperation and integration in Central Asia by sharing the Asian experience", with the objective of examining the role of regional economic cooperation in Central Asia in the light of new global

developments. The forum offered an opportunity to SPECA members to learn more about the successes and challenges of regional economic cooperation in Asia, including the experiences of subregional organizations, such as ASEAN and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

Component 4
Subregional activities for development in South and South-West Asia

(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address gaps in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, infrastructure development, trade and transport facilitation, disaster risk reduction, energy and food security

522. The Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia worked actively with member States to respond to demand for increased policy implementation capacity in four core development areas (growth, the Millennium Development Goals and gender equality, trade promotion, and regional economic integration) and five subregional thematic priority areas (regional connectivity, food security, energy security, disaster risk reduction and productive capacity), and accelerated development for least developed and landlocked developing countries. A range of policy-related analyses and tools produced by the Office for subregional policymakers were complemented with the delivery to key policymakers and partners in the subregion of demand-led and partnered capacity development activities including numerous policy dialogues, expert group meetings, workshops, consultations and high-level policy dialogues with ministerial-level representation.

(b) Increased knowledge-sharing and partnerships among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in South and South-West Asia

523. ESCAP continued to collaborate with development partners and other stakeholders in the subregion and organized specific activities and events that established and maintained a highly active knowledge-sharing platform, including an active web presence and the creation of three knowledge-management tools: a regular *Development Monitor* e-newsletter, a policy-brief series and a development paper series. These knowledge products and tools strengthened the knowledge and capacity of member States to accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and inclusive development. The analysis of the use of these knowledge products and tools indicated that there was active interest on the part of member States and development partners in their use and in partnering with ESCAP on policy-related issues related to acceleration of the achievement of the Goals and inclusive development.

Component 5
Subregional activities for development in South-East Asia

(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address priority issues in South-East Asia, including in the areas of early warning, disaster risk reduction and connectivity

524. ESCAP organized a subregional workshop on the institutional strengthening of national women's machineries in South-East Asia in January 2012, with the aim of helping to build the capacity of national officials in the areas of advocacy and gender mainstreaming. Assistance was provided in 2013 to Myanmar and Timor-Leste in the following interrelated core areas: (a) facilitating the process of Myanmar's integration into the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015 and its eventual graduation from the least developed country category; (b) enhancing capacities in the formulation and implementation of development-oriented macroeconomic policies; (c) enhancing capacities in the promotion of investment for small and medium-sized enterprises; and (d) supporting the transfer of improved and environmentally sound modern technologies. Later in 2013, ESCAP supported Thailand in hosting the event entitled "Asia-Pacific ministerial dialogue: from the Millennium Development Goals to the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015". The meeting was the first to be held in the region at which the priorities of Asia and the Pacific were considered in the process of formulating sustainable development goals.

(b) Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners in addressing key priority areas in South-East Asia in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

525. ESCAP supported the implementation of the master plan for ASEAN connectivity and participated in the third ASEAN Connectivity Symposium and an informal consultation under the ASEAN Connectivity Coordination Committee held in Phnom Penh September 2012, at which updates on regional initiatives contributing to ASEAN connectivity in terms of transport infrastructure and priority issues in transport facilitation were shared with participating members. ESCAP also participated in the 16th meeting of the Greater Mekong Subregional Transport Forum, held in Nay Pyi Taw in October 2012.

Section 20
Economic development in Europe

Highlights of programme results

During the biennium, the parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes made a historic amendment that opened the Convention for accession by all United Nations Member States and ensured equal access to water worldwide. The parties to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution adopted amendments to the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone and the Protocol on Heavy Metals, in order to reduce harmful emissions and the loss of biodiversity, promote new and clean technologies and bring health and economic benefits to people. The World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations adopted 10 new and updated 174 existing regulations to improve the safety and environmental performance of vehicles. Six international legal instruments were brought into line with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, including all major legal instruments governing the international transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterway, air and sea. The ECE International Public-Private Partnership Centre of Excellence received the Special Award for South-South Cooperation. ECE adopted a strategy for sustainable housing and land management for 2014-2020 and an action plan for the forest sector in the green economy for 2014-2020. The multi-stakeholder consultation organized in Istanbul in 2013 provided a regional perspective on the post-2015 development agenda in Europe and Central Asia.

Challenges and lessons learned

Matching the increasing demands of member States with the decreasing resources of the programme remained the main challenge. A divergence of views on the part of member States complicated the implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2012-2013 and its planning for the biennium 2014-2015. The review of the 2005 ECE reform by the Commission showed that developed countries and transition economies had different development needs and, hence, different priorities.

Output implementation rate

526. The above-cited results are based on the implementation of 91 per cent of 3,323 mandated, quantifiable outputs.

527. Approved expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement can be found in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 20) and Corr.1).